The Book Reviews of Chester Cuthbert

Authors' surnames beginning with

Wa-We



Wachtmeister, Countess Constance

Reminiscences of H. P. Blavatsky and The Secret Doctrine; Wheaton, Illinois, The Theosophical Publishing House A Quest Book; (1976, Publishers); Illustrated 141p.

The author was companion and assistant to Blavatsky in Wurzburg during the early writing of The Secret Doctrine. She claims that Blavatsky had few books of reference, and was told that these were consulted via the Astral Light; Blavatsky would appear to become abstracted, then copy from these books, unseen by others.

I think it is probable that a copy of <u>Isis Unveiled</u> would be among the books, and that many of the references needed would stem from that work, aided by notes used in its compilation, or made subsequently. There is no question, however, about <u>The Secret Doctrine</u> being a remarkable work if the routine followed by <u>Blavatsky</u> as described in this book is factual.

The periodical reprints are of interviews by reporters giving superficial impressions. The reports of the Keightley nephew and uncle are important as showing that publication could be made only after re-arrangement of the material, and probably after extensive checking and editing.

I am very favorably impressed by the Countess, who was apparently the best of friends to Blavatsky, and who admits that her connection with the writing was humble and of no importance. Blavatsky's twelve hours per day of writing is proof of her determination to complete the work; doctors had despaired of her life, but she did, by spiritual strength, overcome her physical disabilities miraculously.

Since her death must closely follow completion of the book, Blavatsky must have been altruistic in the work she did: ample repayment of any debt owed society for the fraud she exercised in manipulating people to form the Theosophical Society, if the book has the value attributed to it.



The Fireside Book of Ghost Stories; with Decorations by Warren Chappell; Indianapolis & New York, The Bobbs-Merrill Company (1947)

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39. The Past		Ellen Glasgow	553
40. The Riddle		Walter de la Mare	577
41. My Platonic Sweetheart		Mark Twain	582
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A fairly large number of these stories are anthologized for the first time, and the selection is a good one. There are some items which are essays or factual, rather than fictional; the volume is one which should be retained for reference.

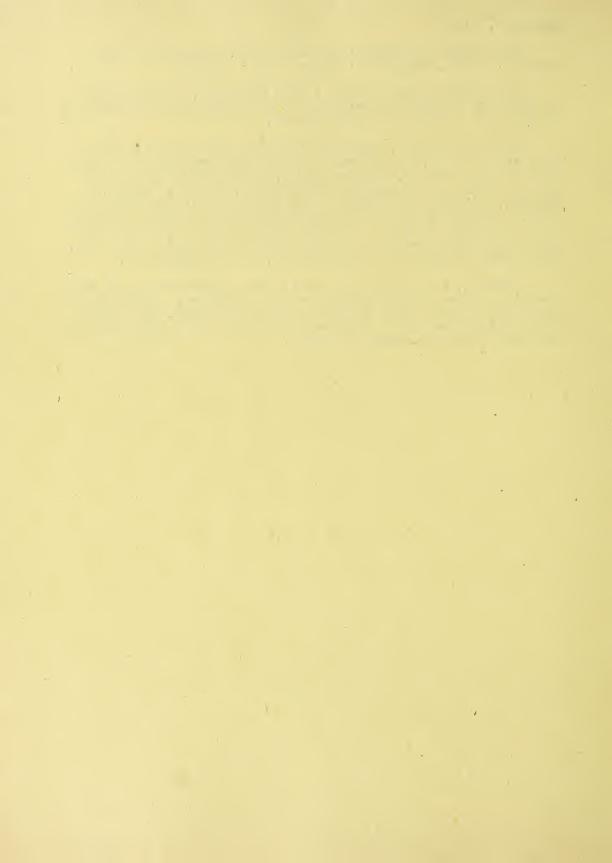


Anthology

Six Novels of the Supernatural, Edited by Edward Wagen-knecht; New York, The Viking Press, 1944 883p.

Contents

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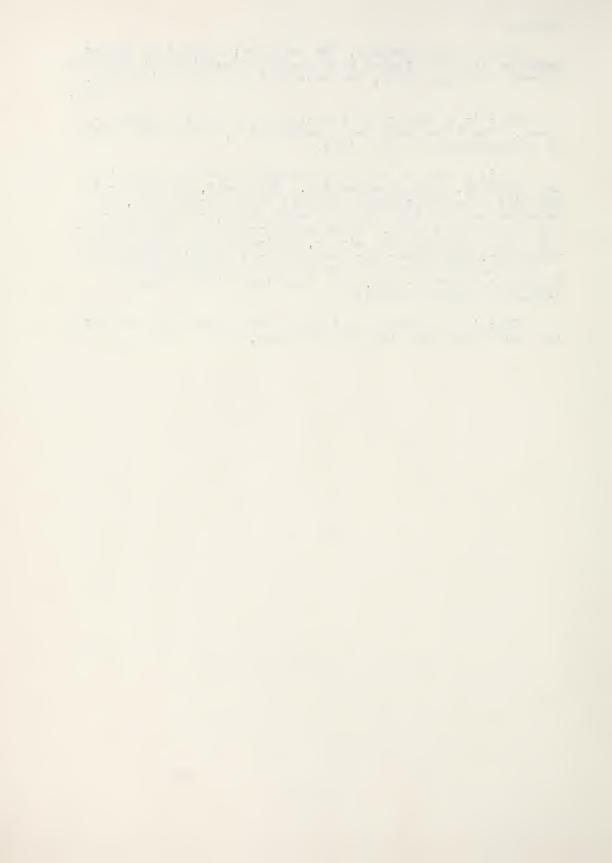


Ring of the Nibelung, The Valkyrie; adapted by Robert Lawrence and illustrated by Alexandre Terebriakoff; New York Grosset & Dunlap (1939, The Metropolitan Opera Guild, Inc.)
40 p.

This is a summary of the story on which the opera is based. The illustrations are attractive, and worth looking at independently of the story.

It is a fantasy based on the myth of Wotan fathering two children, then disappearing. They meet, the sister is the wife of a woodsman who notices their resemblance, and resents the love they feel for each other, so challenges the brother to a duel. Woten appears; dosowns his daughter for having thwarted his wishes, banished her sisters the valkyries, and places his daughter as a sleeping beauty on a fire-guarded mountaintop to be awakened only when her husband to be finds her. (Is this the origin of the "sleeping beauty" legend?)

This is a valuable assistance for anyone interested in the background and story of the opera.



Wagner, Jane

The Tearch for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Unizverse; New York, etc., Harper & Row (1986, author); Illustrated 224p.

This play, starring Lily Tomlin, is lavishly produced by the publishers, but seems little more than a feminist view of contemporary life in the United States.

A bag lady believes she is in touch with extraterrestrial visitors who wish to understand our society, which is portrayed by various typical characters, confused, aimless, dissatisfied and materialistic.

Although the play appears to have been a success and is praised by critics who are authoritative, it conveyed little to me. This may be due to my own limitations, however, so I will not pass judgment on the book.

Most of the illustrations depict various moods of Lily Tomlin.

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1962-1987

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C A S E F É T E '

First City Trust

A Ghoatly Company: A Book of Ghoat Stories; London, Jonathan Cape (1935) 256p.

Contents

1.	'And He Thall Ging'	9
2.	Death of a Poacher	28
3.	'He Cometh and He Paggeth By'	49
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5.	The Geventeenth Hole at Duncaster	102
6.	Or Persons Unknown	120
7.	The Inevitable Flaw	143
8.	That Dieth Not	159
9.	The Red Lodge	189
10.	Professor Pownall's Oversight	208
11.	The Third Coach	227
12.	Corporal Humpit of the 4th Musketeers	247

Eight of these stories are reprinted from They Return at Evening.

(2), (4), (7) and (12) I read from this volume.

I note from Books in Print that two collections of Wakefield's stories have been edited and reprinted lately, so it is probable that introductions to those collections have notes on the author's position in literature as a ghost story writer. A few of the stories are murder mysteries and of a rather macabre nature, but the bulk are traditional and soundly based on psychic testimonies.

Note: Only (2) and (4) are reprinted in The Clock Strikes Twelve. None appear in Strayers from Sheol.

(3) is a fictionized portrayal of Aleister Crowley.

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Old Man's Beard: Fifteen Disturbing Tales; London, Geoffrey Bles (April, 1929) 278p.

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3.	The Cairn	49
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5.	"Look Up There!" ~	89
6.	"Written in Our Flesh"	109
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8.	A Coincidence at Hunton	139
9.	Nurse's Tale	161
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11.	Unrehearsed	193
12.	A Jolly Surprise for Henri	213
	The Red Hand	241
14.	Surprise Item	255
	A Case of Mistaken Identity	267

I read all these stories from this volume. (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (7), (8); (9), (12), (13) are reprinted in the volume entitled Ghost Stories.

The author is obviously a sincere student of paychic phenomena, and offers no explanation of them beyond the hypotheses others have advanced of paychometric impressions activated by sensitives capable of discerning them. Writing often in a jaunty style which seems to convey the hopelessness he feels in getting his readers to accept the stories as more than fictional concoctions, these are yet careful depictions of paychic awareness, and many of them are likely based on actual cases, since the SPR is mentioned.

Note: None of these stories appear in Arkham House collections.

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Wakefield, H. R.

They Return at Evening: A Book of Ghost Stories; London, Philip Allan & Co., Ltd. (1928)

Contents

1.	That Dieth Not	9
	Or Persons Unknown	49
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7.	"And He Shall Sing "	211
	The Seventeenth Hole at Duncaster	137
	A Peg on Which to Hang	263
	An Echo	287

I read this book many years ago, and have forgotten the stories for the most part. I am listing them mainly because many have been reprinted in A Ghostly Company, (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8). (9) and (10) are reprinted in Ghost Stories, so that this volume has been entirely reprinted in the other two collections.

Consequently, this note has been prepared mainly for bibliographical purposes.

The Brocklebank Riddle; New York, The Century Co., 1914 (1914, Century) 329p.

Much to my surprise, as I have never read a review of this novel, I find that it is one of the best "possession" or transfer of personality stories I have read.

Told in the first person by Reece, Brocklebank, his wife Rachel, and he go mountain climbing in Switzerland. Brocklebank lags during the climb, and at last succumbs to a constitutional weakness, dying before he can be brought down from the mountain by a party of rescuers.

Reece watches the cremation, accompanies Rachel back to England, and returns to their partnership office where he is astounded to find REGER hard at work.

Brocklebank

He warns Rachel to be prepared for a shock; and tells her that Brocklebank is alive. Rachel and Bill Brocklebank meet again, but Rachel finds Billy repulsive, and goes to Reece for protection. Reece doubts his own sanity, but is reassured after he consults an alienist, who believes he may have been misled into believing that he had witnessed the cremation of Brocklebank.

Reece notices unusual, uncharacteristic behavior of Brocklebank, who is unable to remember a week intervening between their climb up the mountain and his regaining full consciousness back in London. Brocklebank has vague clues to happenings, but cannot recall them definitely, or their meaning.

Mrs. Stuart, a theosophical clairvoyant, tries to contact Brocklebank on the basis of a message from the spirit of her husband who had disappeared. Reece intercepts the meeting, and is very greatly impressed by Mrs. Stuart. Mrs. Stuart explains that her husband was a spiritually-minded adept who often entered the trance state; and when she is finally introduced to Brocklebank, discovers that he is her missing husband. There had been a transfer of personality, Brocklebank's spirit entering the body of Stuart while he was out-of-the-body.

Brocklebank is a materialist whose spirit wished only to stay in an earthly body, and which seized on one similar in form to his own. Brocklebank is quite unconscious of his having done this, but becomes coarser as if he were an evil spirit or elemental, and coarsens Stuart's body.

Mrs. Stuart hires a hypnotist who places Brocklebank into trance, and Stuart regains control of his own body.

This is a serious study of the problem; a very fine book.



Walker, Dale L.

The Alien Worlds of Jack London; Grand Rapids, Michigan Wolf House Books, 1973 (Walker); Bibliography 47p.

This chapbook consists of several short essays covering the various types of fantasy fiction written by Jack London, and is a handy reminder of the nature of most of the stories.

One peculiar omission from the Bibliography is Hearts of Three, which is mentioned in the text. I have not yet looked up the rest of the Bibliography, but it appears useful to the student of this facet of London's literary work.

Walker appears familiar with the technical field of the fantasy magazines.

Devil's Plunge: London-Toronto, 1968

288p.

Somewhat along the lines of the author's "Winter of Madness", this novel incidentally mentions several of the characters of that earlier book.

Harry Ambler, gentleman pilot, somewhat down on his luck, perhaps by design of Intersec he later suspects, is hired to spy on his old war-comrade Max Vyan, a wealthy jet-set leader for whom money has begun to pall falling for the temptation to dominate when a smaller nation suggests an atomic gun. In a Swiss fortress, guarded by a special strain of gigantic dogs and with moat and drawbridge, Vyan has paid a million pounds for a diamond, which a call-girl killer wears, and which its previous owner Brock, head of the secret organization Intersec has had "bugged" so that its location can be ascertained when special glasses are worn.

Ambler is not averse to dallying with the call-girl, but is really in love with Mary Dunn, Brock's social secretary and head of one of his industrial enterprises. Brock places Dunn in charge of Ambler's assignment, but leaves Ambler free to govern the local action. With a small fortune promised, Ambler betrays Vyan, who trusts him alone of all people in the world. Vyan is power-mad, however, and Ambler's compunctions are obliterated when Vyan tries to wipe out Ambler and half of Europe, failing which he commits suicide.

This tale of intrigue and secret service mystery is very well written, and introduces several advanced wearons and communications inventions. Whether these are in fact available or are merely fanciful accounterments of Intersec and Vyan is the key to whether this book can be considered fantasy or only "James Bond" adventure. If fantasy, this is still not importantly so.

The ski-ing scenes are well-done, but perhaps take up too much of the action for non-ski-ing readers.



The Lord's Pink Ocean; Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company 1972, (Walker)

The grandfather of one of the women characters had developed a form of algae almost ideal for assimilating garbage, but warned the authorities that it could overwhelm the world if it should escape controlled conditions. Industrialists took it, and it finally escaped because of an industrial accident.

Gradually it spread over most of the world's waters, until only in isolated communities were any men left alive; and these were mainly in the arctic regions. The Parkers and their daughter Mary are a black family; the Smiths and their son Ian are of Scottish stock, and retain their accent; they survive in an isolated valley; their books are destroyed in a fire, and they rely on memory of what they have been taught. Dread of miscegenation keeps them apart; and at first they keep their herds and farms on a similar basis; but then they remember that in---breeding leads to degeneration, so they mingle their animals and rotate their crops.

The white man is sly and lazy; the black industrious and conscientious. The black helps the white, but reluctantly; they join forces only when their safety is threatened by aircraft from the outside world; and their efforts are devoted to keeping their children from going outside the boundaries of the valley. Just as Mary starts womanhood, Ian kills her pet chipmunk; so they are estranged for four years; but then fall in love secretly because of their parents' prejudices. The fathers become aware of their secret meetings; and in climbing to their tree house are killed when Ian forces them back.

Ian is an instinctive inventor and commences to improve their farms by equipment and electricity; he makes a child Hamish with her. Constantly in fear of invasion, since their fathers had murdered an Eskimo missionary and his wife who flew into the valley, they are finally visited by an official who is practically a dictator in the northern Arctic; and in spite of the official's wife's distress, the official detects that Ian and Mary know of the missionary, and plots to take Ian as his assistant because of his special abilities. But Ian overhears the plot, switches the tank controls on the plane and waters the gas; and the plane crashes.

Ian, Mary and Hamish, and the mothers, are left in the valley; but the book is inconclusive, since the possibility of future invasion is not eliminated.

This is little more than a pot-boiler, but is well-written and interesting.



Winter of Madness; London, Collins, 1964 Fontana Books #1415, 1966 255p. 191p.

Lord Tarquin Duncatto and his wife Lois agree to lease their castle for the winter to Harry Zanzibar Gilpin, an American newspaperman and hypnotist at £200 a week including shooting rights. He also agrees to instal electrical equipment and additional power facilities at his own cost, and is prepared to relinquish these to Duncatto.

Lois brings as Christmas guests Grafin Gloria Von der Wonne and her fat and wicked son Theodore; a homosexual novelist who is also an expert war ace; and her daughter Tirene. Gilpin employs Mabel Boulding and Buddy Gravel, scientists, who have been working for years to perfect a humanoid named Caesar Campari. Campari is a very likable character, who can repeat perfectly any action he has seen, and can infer from completed artistic work the detailed technique of its creation and produce original work in the master's style.

Gilpin had once hypnotised Gloria, and she afterwards was ever fearful that he had abused her while she was entranced. She avoids him, but has an affair with Duncatto, who loves his wife but can't resist beauty; they are blackmailed by her son Theodore who fascinates Tirene. Because of a rumor that Gilpin may be manufacturing Glonx, a scentless gas that induces all living beings to drunken sottery and saturnalia, Duncatto reports to a government official who sends Colonel Tiger Clyde, a braggart, gun-toting secret service agent (a caricature of James Bond whom he claims as a friend), irresistible to women, to investigate. Tiger browbeats everyone, plays up to the women, is matched at gunplay by Campari, and is stuck in a narrow secret passage when rearguarding a rescue led by Duncatto when the Mafia try to take over Gilpin's setup.

While pheasant-hunting after beating off the invaders (in fact killing all ten and burning their bodies on a high ascent) Campari becomes a perfect shot. Theodore tries to drown the entire hunting party by opening floodgates, but Duncatto hears the coming water and leads all to safety. Having seen Theodore maliciously fire at Mabel's backside, Campari kills him and throws his body in the bog which has already absorbed the homo and his plane; having also decided that all humans are killers, Campari decides that they should be destroyed, and only by commandeering an armoured car does Duncatto manage to get close enough to him to have Mabel seduce and then disconnect him and render him harmless.

Told humorously in the first person by Duncatto, this is more a spoof than a serious fantasy, but the characterisations are very good. The book ends when Duncatto, having overheard Tiger making an assignation with Tirene, arranges with his factor to "bug" Tiger's car so that it plunges off the road, explodes and kills him. Duncatto is a dowser, and his hunter's wife, Margaret McDownie, a six-foot seeress, also dowses, has the second-sight and predicts future events in Duncatto's life. The fantasy elements in the book are fairly important.



Walker, Dorothy Pierce

gatan Came Also; New York, Liveright Publishing Corporation (1941, Publishers) 302p.

This is an excellent novel based on the medical history of the advent of inoculation in Boston when smallpox is by a shipload of negroes brought to endanger the entire population.

The story involves a young doctor who recognizes the danger and recommends inoculation against the ridicule of a senior doctor, and the preaching of the older brother of a girl they both desire to marry. Benjamin Franklin is one of the characters, a boy of 15 years at the time. Cotton Mather and his son, a wastrel, also figure in the story. Carefully researched, the family life, superstitions and customs, and the costumes of the time are depicted, and the battle between religion and science on the subject of inoculation is clearly described.

The year 1721 and the arrival of the ship <u>Seahorse</u> begin the story, but it is mainly the family life and the setting of custom and belief which distinguish this novel. It is well written and interesting.

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1962-1987

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First City Trust

Walker, Jerry

A Date with Destiny; New York, Josmos Publishing Company (1949) 225p.

The author describes this as a contemporary novel, and it is mainly a secret service story of intrigue, dominated by Colonel Lawrence Marley, head of the M.I.D. Marley is the double of General Von Brandenburg; both are involved in trying to secure for their respective nations the atom rays and the atom time-adjuster invented by Professor Borensen which will confer ultimate power on the nation possessing them.

The improbable success of Marley in impersonating Von Brandenburg, even fooling the latter's sister, is the key to the unimportance of this novel of international intrigue. Only the background inventions of Gorensen make it possible, as in the novels of Jax Rohmer, to include this book in the fantasy fiction category.



Walker, Norman

Loona: A Strange Tail; London/New York/Toronto, Long-mans, Green and Co., 1933; (September, 1933), (1931) 307p.

An anthropologist investigating stories of mermaids is told of a sculpture of one and makes a sketch of it. He hears of Arthur Hetherington, a naturalist who actually saw a mermaid, and spends several days inquiring about the case.

The balance of the story, told in the third person, details how Arthur became enamored of the mermaid and was lured into visiting her in a seaside cave, fed her lobster claws which he purchased from a local butcher, was accused of having robbed the fighermens' pots, seduced a girl who was formerly a maid in his home but who had earned a poor reputation and who went to the cave to change her clothes before going in swimming, and who was ultimately saved from drowning when he swam out to sea with the mermaid.

Although told geriously, the conclusion of the story leaves the reader doubting because of accusations of madness having attacked Arthur. This is typical British humor but the book qualifies as a fantasy, is well written and interesting. My copy is apparently the third edition.

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First City Trust

Wallace, Alfred Russel (D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.)

Miracles and Modern Spiritualism; Revised Edition with chapters on Apparitions and Phantasms; London, Nichols & Co., 1901; Prefaces; (1974, 1st ed.); Appendix; Index 292p.

I have had this important book on my shelves for over 50 years, but it was so widely quoted in the literature that I felt confident that I was sufficiently aware of its contents that I had no need to read it. My discovery that so many of these old classics contained material not brought forward by more recent books has led me to read more of them; this book is probably the best and most soundly reasoned of any which plea for the acceptance of the phenomena and hypothesis of spiritualism.

The early part defeats the rationalistic views of Hume and Lecky concerning miracles, thus preparing the reader for the calm consideration of testimony for the reality of psychic experiences as facts. Wallace's credentials are unimpeachable, and he gives instances of his personal investigations besides quoting from the best books providing earlier cases.

Modern research and skeptical works have cast doubt on some of the material presented, but in the main, the facts are true and none better than the spiritualistic hypothesis has been advanced to explain them. How they are possible, however, is still unexplained; our ignorance can be dispelled only by scientific investigation.

Spiritualism as a religion is still more widely practised than is generally known, and this book supports its adherants.

Chester D. Cuthbert December 13, 1996

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Wallace, Alfred Russel (O.M., D.C.L.Oxon, F.R.S., etc.)

The Revolt of Democracy; London, etc., Cassell and Company, Ltd, 1913; Portrait; Illustrated; xlv plus index and 82p.

The early part of this volume consisted of a short biography of the author by James Marchant who, three years later published his two-volume Life and Letters of Wallace. The rest of the book is short essays condemning the immorality of the social and economic system and advocating alleviation and fairness to workers.

Since many workers and their families were starving to death Wallace suggested that free bread be given them as a matter of right, not charity. This right, which I have recommended for years in the form of a Guaranteed Annual Income, was as much as Wallace could visualize in his day, but which is easily affordable in our wealthy country today.

Wallace was influenced to accept socialism by reading $\underline{\text{Backward}}$ by Bellamy. In his last years he turned from evolution to the study of society and his essays could be considered as scientific muck-raking like that of Upton Sinclair.

Wallace was a great and good man who was not afraid to declare his acceptance of spiritualism.

Chester D. Cuthbert February 1, 2002

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Wallace, Alfred Russel (0.M., DCL.Oxon., F.R.S., etc.)

Social Environment and Moral Progress; London, etc., Cassell and Company, Ltd; 1913; Portrait; Index 164p.

A companion volume to $\frac{\text{The Revolt of Democracy}}{\text{traced the history of human character}}$ and provided theoretical essays demonstrating that it was modified by environment but only temporarily. This book reinforced the other in viewing our social and economic system as immoral and requiring a change to bring better equality to rich and poor.

Nearly a hundred years later the gap between rich and poor is still widening and our Canadian Prime Minister has squelched the idea of a Guaranteed Annual Income in spite of its habing been granted to Old Age Pensioners.

Wallace claimed that morality differed in different societies and could never become absolute.

Chester D. Cuthbert February 1, 2002

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The Day of Uniting; New York, The Mystery League, Inc. 1930

The Prime Minister of England, being advised that a comet will crash into the Earth, keeps the news from the people, but declares a national holiday with free transportation for everyone to have family reunions before the world is ended. Because of mistakes in calculations, the comet misses the earth.

The story is built as a mystery around the attempts to keep secret the impending event, and mavhinations of an enemy of the prime minister to expose the news. The hero is drawn into the affair because he falls in love with the daughter of the printer who sets up type for the publication of important government bulletins.

Altogether, much ado about nothing.



The Man Who Was Nobody; London and Melbourne, Ward, Lock & Company, Limited, no date 256p.

This is a contrived and artificial popular novel, based on half-brothers, one noble and adventurous, the other weak and deceitful. The strong one returns to England from South Africa to find that his brother has used his name and married an actress and incurred debts. The confidential stenographer of his lawyer delivers a warning to the erring brother, who is defiant, and finally commits suicide under circumstances which cast suspicion of murder on his noble brother.

The noble brother has saved the life of a prosector in South Africa who has given him a half-interest in a fablous mine. The prospector is the uncle of the stenographer, and has been sending money for the support of the girl's mother for years. His wealth makes him wish to give it to the girl rather than her cousin, a supercilious young man; so he asks his noble partner to marry the girl. She does not wish to marry "Pretoria Smith" because she thinks him a murderer and a drunkard (mistaking malaria for drunkenness), but he is a gentleman and they are married "in name only". Her mother has incurred gambling debts to the actress, and the girl feels compelled to yield to her uncle's wishes so that he will continue to support her mother.

This melodramatic situation is resolved happily, but not sufficiently so to make a good book.

This is a rather poor Wallace book.



Nig-Nog and Other Humorous Stories; Cleveland and New York, The World Syndicate Publishing Co. (1934), no pagination

Contents

1. "Nig-Nog!"

2. Jimmy's Brother

3. Sentimental Simpson 4. Chubb of the Slipper

5. Indian Magic

6. Establishing Charles Bullivant

7. The Cat Burglar
8. Via Madeira
9. Jake's Brother Bill
10. The Jewel Box
11. White Stockings

12. In Thrall

These are quite good commercial short stories, most with a humorous tone and slant. #5 and #11 are horse racing tales; #1 and #5 are borderline fantasy, involving, respectively, a nerve tonic soft drink and a drug to speed and increase the endurance of horses.



The Nine Bears

This is the British title of the book published in the U.S.A. as Silinski, Master Criminal. See my notes under that title.

It was originally published under the title The Other Man, but is a revision of the original story.



On the Spot; London/New York/Melbourne/Sydney/Cape Town, John Long Limited (1949), (1931) 252p.

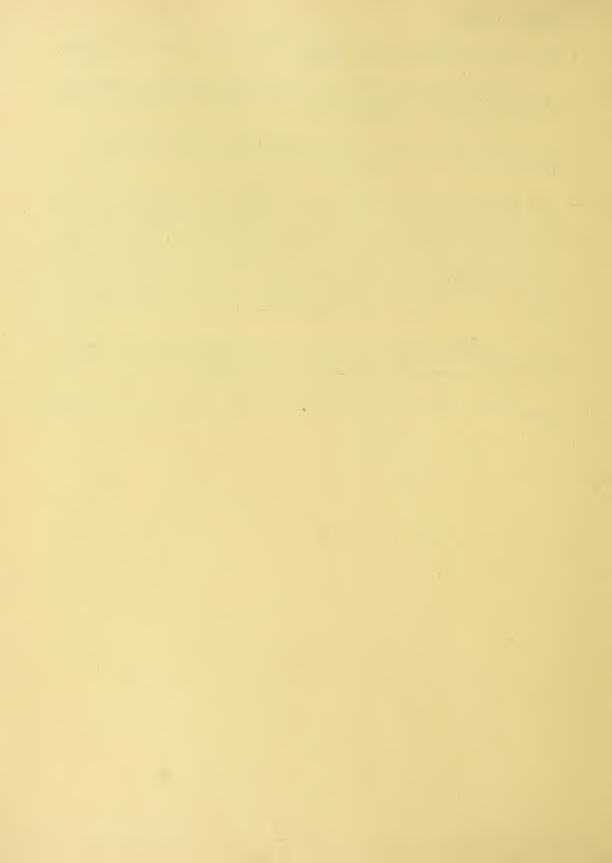
Considering that Wallace is an English author, this book is an excellent representation of the crime situation in Chicago during the prohibition era.

Tony Perelli makes up to \$2,000,000 a year from liquor and girls, lives in a sumptuous apartment, and never sees bills so small as a ten-spot.

This book concentrates on his decision to place his current Chinese mistress Minn Lee in charge of a Cicero brothel and replace her with the "wife" of a New York gunman he has imported and put"on the spot" with young Jimmie, acollege man designed as a fixer but who showed a yellow streak when told to kill a man as his initiation act. Jimmie falls in love with Minn Lee, who warns him that he is being placed "on the spot": with this defiance of Perelli Minn acquires peace of mind and gives Jimmie the courage to accept his death courage-ously.

The portrait of the Chief of Detectives Kelly is very good: a man who does his job but is hamstrung by politicians and judges in the pay of Perelli and his ilk.

This is the best Edgar Wallace book I have read in recent years.



The Other Man; Illustrations by T. J. Fogarty; Toronto, William Briggs, 1911, (1911, Dodd, Mead and Company) 304p.

Unfortunately, I read this story in the revised version published under the title Silinski, Master Criminal. The original version may be a better story.

The revised story was published in Britain under the title The Nine Bears.



Planetoid 127 and The Tweizer Pump; London, The Readers Library Publishing Company Ltd. 252p.

Contents

1. Planetoid 127 2. The "weizer Pump 11*

These two stories are of novelette length, and only the first is science fiction. I am, however, filing the book in my science fiction collection.

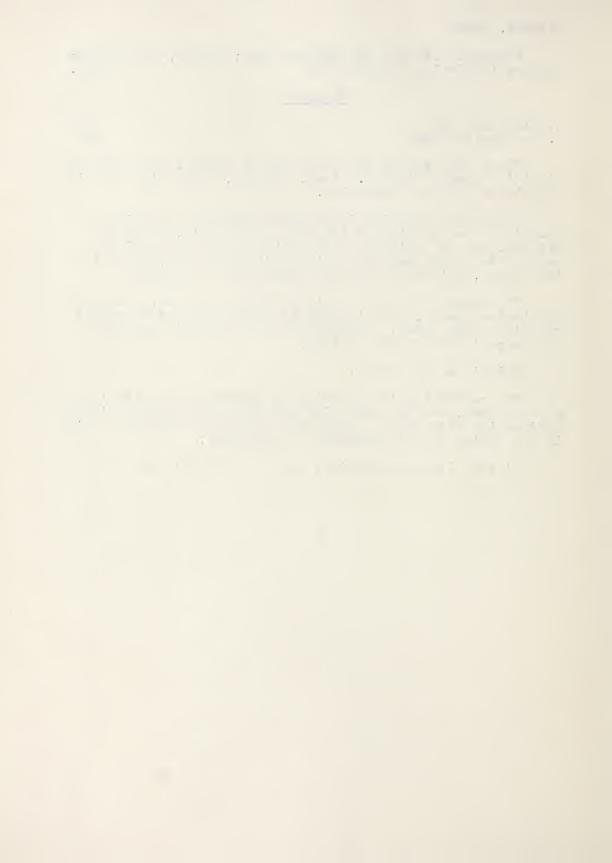
A wealthy scientist is in radio communication with a planet on the far side of the sun. His cousin, and a rich neighbor are in collusion to rob him; but a young friend calls after being made the scientist's sole heir, and foils the crooks, but only after the scientist is murdered.

The planet is almost a mirror image of Earth, and as it duplicates events, each is able to foresee the stock market results on the other. Consequently the scientist and his counterpart both become wealthy.

This is a poor story.

The second involves robbing an inventor of a patent on a water pump, and the duplicity and fraud of a partner in an engineering firm who is saved from ruin by the love of a girl in the office and his partner's forbearance.

It also is hack material, and of no importance.



Private Selby; London and Melbourne, Ward, Lock, & Co. Ltd., no date 256p.

P.7: Publisher's Note: This book, originally published in 1912, two years before the outbreak of the Great War, has been widely recognized as one of the most remarkable of the works which foretold a war between Britain and a great Continental power, and there is an extra-ordinarily close parallelism between the author's previsionings and the war-time events as we have since known them. Time and again the reader forgets the prophetic character of the main plot in the convincing identity with subsequent history of much of the detail of this book by an author who foresaw while statesmen still refused to foresee.

Dick Selby grows up in slum surroundings and becomes a clerk time-keeper. He loves his Brown Lady, a girl who lives in a large home with servants but whom he is too shy to approach. Police chase some fugitives, one of whom he hides in his room, discovering her to be his Brown Lady in the guise of a boy. Her father, formerly 0. C. the Royal Rochester Regiment, had lost rank and become a counterfeiter.

Dick joins the Rochesters, who help him to save Elise from Oxstead a wealthy lecher. From Private to Corporal he rises when he succeeds in stopping an Uhlan invasion; and with Elise's guidance, he studies for further advancement. Made a lieutenant at the behest of the Empress of Mid-Europe who admires his having bested her troops, he quickly grasps opportunities for saving the Empress when she accompanies her troops on an invasion of England; grasps her point-of-view that Germany needs a port and free trade, and recommends a graceful peace when Germany is defeated.

Although improbable, Selby's career is possibly based on exceptional precedent. Aside from the use of airships in war, a silenced gun, and oxygen-filled small baloons aimed to fire and destroy the airships, there is little science-fictional material, but as a story of future war, this book does belong in a fantasy library. The fantasy element, however, is of little importance, and the prophetic element is restricted to the fact that a war with Germany did occur, and that Germany did invade.



Silinski, Master Criminal; New York, The Avon Book Company, (Murder of the Month #3), (1930, Wallace, 1942, Avon); Illustrated by Fred A. Mayer 254p.

Silinski acts as liason for the Nine Bears, an organization of stock market manipulators who engineer catastrophes in order to depress stock prices. Silinski's sister is a beautiful adventuress with whom he works occasionally, and is involved with him in the capacity of using her charms to inveigle key information from powerful people.

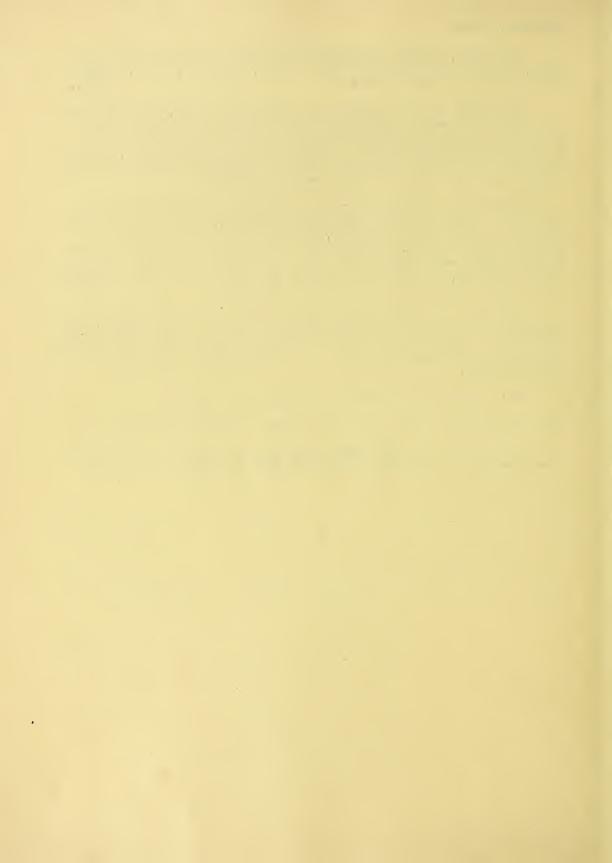
Assistant Commissioner T. B. Smith of Scotland Yard is Silinski's antagonist. Smith is a dapper, quiet detective of unusual breadth of knowledge, who gets on the track of the market disturbances, noting that the market drops before the events which make it possible for the bears to cover their short selling, so is on the watch for any market inconsistencies which may point to another catastrophe.

Neither the characters nor the events of the story are adequate to support the plot premise, being stock sensational devices to carry the action. Two major situations demonstrate the crooks' methods, but neither is worked out with care or plausibility.

This story is not worth a second reading.

Bibliographical note: British title: The Nine Bears.

Original title was The Other Man, but this was revised drastically in The Nine Bears (Silinski, Master Criminal).



Wallace, F. L.

Address: Centauri New York, Gnome Press, Inc.; (1955, author) 220p.

An unusual science fiction novel, it seems to me to have been written by a medically educated man concerning accidentals: people so seriously injured or constitutmonally disabled as to be freaks by comparison with the beautifully healthy normal population of Earth. The accidentals are placed as a colony on an asteroid, and they determine that they are going to Centauri to explore its planets and their alien inhabitants. Permission is denied because the government does not wish aliens to identify mankind with freaks instead of the normal humans.

Because of longevity associated with their repair, the accidentals are really the only humans who can survive the time span involved in interstellar travel, so they determine to disobey. The chase by a government ship and the efforts expended by the accidentals make up the plot; but the interest is centered on the queer personalities of the accidentals.

The jacket blurb gives a good summary of the characters and the story, and this book rates above average.

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MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE

174 MARKET AVENUE WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, R3B 0P8 MLF#1523RF Wallace, Irving

The Chapman Report; New York, Simon and Schuster, 1960 (1960, Author), (Fourth Printing) 371p.

The jacket blurb gives a fairly comprehensive outline of this novel, which is actually a good presentation of the methods of statistical sexual surveys like Kinsey's, but the story is built on the sex lives of a group of women in a wealthy suburb in California, and their interactions with members of the sex-survey team who become involved with them.

Wallace is pretty graphic in portraying the sex urges and actions of these bored housewives, and in an interview published in the Flemings' The First Time said he had talked with many women before writing this book.

What the story points out is the danger that statistical surveys ignore the emotional and family lives of the individuals, reducing them to statistics and ignoring their lives as human beings. No two are the same, despite statistical evidence of their actions. A member of the survey team, at first devoted to its leader and conforming to his aims, is converted by an opponent who is a family counsellor to a more human view of the work, so he leaves the team.

This book may be unique as a serious fictional study of a sex survey, so should be retained for reference.

Circle Co-Ordinating Committee, Financial Statement, Forward:

RECEIPTS, brought Forward

\$ 8,074.62

DISBURSEMENTS:

Knox McLean Senior Citizen's Dinner Club	\$ 100.00	
Eva Weir - Cards and Postage	23.50	
Mission and Service Fund	2,200.00	
Cups and Saucers	334.28	
Crescent Fort Rouge General Funds	4,000.00	
1 dozen ashtrays	6.30	
United Church Women Bursary Fund	100.00	
Postage and Insurance for Supply Layette	2.44	
3 pitchers for Kitchen	20.96	
Canada Packers (Bazaar)	152.41	
Eggs for Bazaar	26.40	
Christmas Party	32.28	_
Total Disbursments	\$ 6,998.57	\$ 6,998.57
Bank Balance as of December 31, 1983		\$ 1,076.05

Elizabeth Prud'homme,

Treasurer

THE FINANACE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Your Finance and Property Committee has been very busy over the past year.

One major job which was arranged for by our Committee was the completion of the re-decorating, including repair and painting of all main church areas, the repairing and releading of our beautiful stained glass windows, refinishing of the exterior doors, and installation of panic hardware on the Nassau Street door. Several much needed additional electrical circuits were added in the Gym, Kitchen and Club Room. Alterations to a portion of the main floor Sunday School Room were made to provide a "Show Case" Gift Shop to be operated by the U.C.W. It is already proving beneficial and financially successful.

Some of the major work which was partially sudsidized by a Government Grant has already been paid for but not yet completed, therefore in the very near future we will be replacing the sidewalk at the Wardlaw entrance and very probably replacing the carpeting in the Sanctuary.

Over the past year amid the hustle and bustle of all the redecorating and all the extra activity due to the preparation for our 100th Anniversary Celebration, we still managed to put our Church space to good and financially beneficial use.

The past year's rental income has increased by about \$2,000.00 over 1982 - this was due to the fact that our building was used for a variety of things ranging from Dancerobics Classes to Production of Plays and Films.

Also over the past year a special donation was received from the United Church Women and 50 additional chairs were purchased for church use.

In closing I would like to mention that our Pledge Campaign this past year has been relatively successful, but there are still a few Members who have not yet made a commitment and we feel that without a firm commitment from everyone our Church will not be able to function as it should.

Jerry Prud'homme,

THE PRINCE OF INDIA, or, Why Constantinople Fell by Lew. Wallace; Harper & Brothers 1893.

I-408. If it be true that the human voice is music's aptest instrument, it is also true that nothing vocalized in nature can excel it in the expression of diabolism.

I-373. In 865 Constantinople was besieged by a horde from the Russian wilderness under the chiefs Dir and Askold. They had passed the upper sea in hundreds of boats, and disembarking on the European shore, marched down the Bosphorus, leaving all behind them desolate. Photius was then Patriarch. When the fleet was descried from the walls, he prevailed on the Emperor to ask the intervention of the Virgin. The Maphorion or Sacred Robe was brought out, and in presence of the people on their knees, the clergy singing the hymn of Pisides, the holy man plunged it into the waves. A wind arose under which the water in its rocky trough was as water in a shaken bowl. The ships of the invaders sunk each other. Not one survived. Of the men, those who lived came up out of the vortexes praying to be taken to the Church of Blacherne for baptism. This was 200 years after the first deliverance of the city, and yet the Mother was faithful to her chosen!

I-480. ... the introduction to wickedness is always stunning—a circumstance proving goodness to be the natural order.

II-60. (From the Bodhisattwa) Strong and calm of purpose as the earth, pure in mind as the water-lily, her name figuratively assumed, Maya, she was in truth above comparison. On her in likeness as the heavenly queen the Spirit descended. A mother, but free from grief or pain, she was without deceit. And now the queen Maya knew her time for the birth had come. It was the eighth day of the fourth moon, a serene and agreeable season. While she thus religiously observed the rules of a pure discipline, Bodhisattwa was born from her right side, come to deliver the world, constrained by great pity, without causing his mother pain or anguish. As one born from recumbent space, and not through the gates of life, men indeed regarded his exceeding great glory, yet their sight remained uninjured; he allowed them to gaze, the brightness of his person concealed for a time, as when we look upon the moon in heaven. His body nevertheless was effulgent with light, and, like the sun which eclipses the shining of the lamp, so the true gold-like beauty of Bodhisattwa shone forth and was everywhere diffused. Upright and firm, and unconfused in mind, he deliberately took seven steps, the soles of his feet resting evenly upon the ground as he went, his footmarks remained bright as seven stars. Moving like the lion, king of beasts, and looking earnestly toward the four quarters, penetrating to the centre the principles of truth, he spoke thus with the fullest assurance: This birth is in the condition of Buddha; after this I have done with renewed birth; now only am I born this once, for the purpose of saving all the world. And now from the midst of heaven there descended two streams of pure water, one warm, the other cold, and baptized his head. Meanwhile the Devas in space, seizing their jewelled canopies, attending, raise in responsive harmony their heavenly songs to encourage him. On every hand the world was greatly shaken....The minutest atoms of sandal perfume, and the hidden sweetness of precious lilies, floated on the air, and rose through space, and then commingling came back to earth ... All cruel and malevolent kinds of beings together conceived a loving heart; all diseases and afflictions amongst men, without a cure applied, of themselves were healed; the cries of beasts were hushed; the stagnant waters of the river courses flowed apace; no clouds gathered on the heavens, while angelic music, self-caused, was heard around....So when Bodhisattwa was born, he came to remove the sorrows of all living things. Mara alone was grieved.

- II-127. Probably the nearest approach to the mythical sixth sense is the power of casting one's mind forward to a coming event, and arranging its occurrence; and whether some have it a gift of nature, while others derive it from cultivation, this much is certain—without it, no man will ever create anything originally.
- II-139. ...a sentiment possibly the oldest and most general amongst men; that which casts a spell of sanctity around wells and springs, and stays the hand about to toss an impurity into a running stream; which impels the North American Indian to replace the gourd, and the Bedouin to spare the bucket for the next comer, though an enemy.
- II-141. In decaying and half-organized states, the boldest in defying public opinion are they who have the most to do in making it. (Thus speaks the Prince of India to Uel.)
- II-155. Sympathy has a fashion of burdening us without in the least lightening the burden which occasions it.
- II-548-9. There is nothing comes to us, whether in childhood or age, so crushing as a sense of isolation. Who will deny it had to do with the marshalling of worlds, and the peopling them—with creation?
- II-549-note. According to the earliest legends, the Wandering Jew was about thirty years old when he stood in the road to Golgotha, and struck the Saviour, and ordered him to go forward. At the end of every hundred years, the undying man falls into a trance, during which his body returns to the age it was when the curse was pronounced. In all other respects he remains unchanged.

Wallop, Douglass

The Mermaid in the Swimming Pool; New York, W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. (1968, Wallop) 216p.

A successful hardware store proprietor feels that his marriage is a failure: he and his wife live together, but only because a divorce would have entailed difficulties. They have a grown son and daughter, live in a fine home with a swimming pool and interesting neighbors, but he drinks too much, and his wife spends too much on parties.

One evening he discovers a mermaid in the pool. She is beautiful and complaisant, and takes him long journeys in water, apparently in a timeless world. Believing at last that she has come for him to accompany her into her world, his fading consciousness recognizes his wife's swimming idiosyncracies.

This is a light, idyllic fantasy novel, of no permanent value.



Wallop, Douglass

What Has Four Wheels and Flies?; New York, W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. (1958,1959, Wallop) 192p.

A dog who has inherited from his mistress 250 shares of General Motors stock and for whom provision has been made to be looked after by a manservant, decides to arrange that his dog friends have cars especially equipped so that they can drive them, thus boosting car sales.

Most of the characters are dogs, and most of the action involves their learning to drive. This is a light fantasy, of no importance apart from assigning the foibles of humans to their canine friends.



Wallop, Douglass

The Year the Yankees Lost the Pennant: A Novel; New York, W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. (1954, Wallop) 250p.

This selection of the Book of the Month Club is the best of the three fantasy novels I have read by Wallop.

A middle-aged fan of the Washington baseball club is offered the chance to lead his team to victory in exchange for his soul. The devil in the form of Mr. Applegate accompanies him throughout his career as a wonderful batter and fielder, tries to double-cross him but is out-maneuvred simply by the honesty of Joe Boyd and a girl who has sold her own soul in exchange for beauty and has fallen in love with the young, transformed baseball player.

A good-humored, kindly fantasy, this has more plot and action than either of the other fantasies, and is worthwhile keeping.



Walpole, Hugh

Above the Dark Circus: An Adventure; London, Macmillan and Co., Limited, 1931 272p.

American title: '"Above the Dark Tumult". See notes under that title.



Walpole, Hugh

Above the Dark Tumult: An Adventure; Toronto, Doubleday, Doran & Gundy, Ltd., 1931 (First Edition) 303p.

There are only a few borderline elements of fantasy in this story; it could better be classified as a bizarre murder story. The narrator is light-headed from lack of food; his love's husband kills a blackmailer; the narrator has hallucinations of seeing the murdered man; one of the characters whose wife has died as a result of the machinations of the blackmailer says his wife has been in touch with him from the spirit world for two years, but goes mad near the story's end. The killer, an idealist subject to ungovernable rages, also goes mad, and leaps to his death with the brother of the murdered man who has also attempted blackmail in a different way.

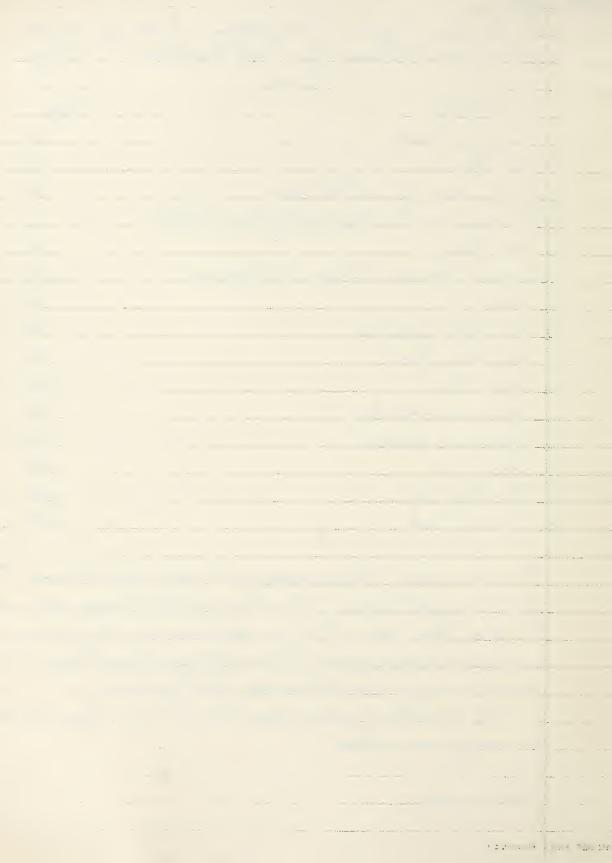
Though well-written, this story failed to stir my emotions and I had little sympathy for the characters. The killer and the two blackmailers were exaggerated unconvincingly, and there was no logical explanation of any kinship among the group of people which would have drawn them together to share the experience.

This is not important in a fantasy library.

English title: "Above the Dark Circus".



Apple, Hugh
"All Souls Night: a Book of Stories"; Garden City, New york,
Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., 1933. First Edition 316 pp.
Contents
Rage 1 Page 1 2. The Silver mask 3. The Staircase 4. A Carnation for an Old man 5. Tarnhelm; or, The Death of my Uncle Robert 81 6 mr. Oddy 109 7. Seashore macabre. a moment's Experience 131 hilac /39 9. The Oldest Talland 163 × 10. The Little Short 181 × 11. mrs. Lunt 2.01 Sentimental but Tue 221 13. Portrait in Shadow 243 × 14. The Snow 267 15 The Ruby Glass 281 16. Spanish Dusk # 2 is a horror stony I believe adapted for T.V. likely Alfred Hitchcock. # 3, 10, 11, 14 are ghost stories. # 5 is a "man into-beast" transformation story. # 244 are Herries stories. # 9412 are about mis Comber, the first dealing with a witch grown too old to practice. # 15 is a "Jenemy and Hamlet" story. # 13 is a portrait-change parallel with theme story, faintly fantastic. The most striking of these stories are 2, 5, 9, 11. many of the others are nostalgie reminiscenses Indicates fantasy. Printed in U.S. A.



Walpole, Hugh

The Killer and the Slain: A Strange Story; Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., 1942 300p.

The blurb of the dust jacket for this book adequately outlines the story.

I would place this as one of the more interesting of the author's fantasy novels, and suggest that it comes about midway between Stevenson's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Wilde's The Picture of Dorian Grey. It is the story of the possession of the mind of the killer by the personality of the slain, but through the obsession of the killer rather than the invasion of the slain man's personality.

Not a pleasant book, but extremely well done.



Walpole, Hugh

Reading: An Essay; New York and London, Harper & Brothers, 1927; (1926, Author) 89p.

Although Walpole started reading probably two generations ahead of me, his appreciation of books matches mine. He recommends, as I do, that collecting should be limited to one's own tastes, ignoring the critics unless their enthusiasm encourages the sampling of apparently congenial works.

His enthusiasm for Scott is probably like mine for Max Brand, based on idealism, love of adventure, and narrative skill.

Although Walpole backs his own choices, he leaves the reader free to follow his own inclinations, insisting only on the value of books as clues to formation of character.



Walter, William W.

The Healing of Pierpont Whitney; Aurora, Illinois, William W. Walter (1913)

The title character, an invalid, accompanies his doctor's son to Europe for a change of scene, and they buy from a sailor a papyrus he claims to have bought in Egypt. This is written in Greek, and they arrange a translation from Prof. Bretento who has heard of the papyrus and becomes interested in it because it appears to teach the philosophy re-discovered by Mary Baker Eddy.

The young men meet an American girl and her mother, and an English noblewoman, Lady Constance. The young men fall in love with the two girls, and Lady Constance, a Christian Science practitioner, propounds the similarities between her faith and that outlined in the papyrus, converting the two men to her views. Naturally, since no other philosophy takes their attention, all are convinced that there is only mind, that matter, including the brain, is incapable of thought and is the illusion of mortal mind, and that illness is a mortal error, so Pier is cured, and two marriages end the book happily.

The story is minimal, and the book is intended to be an elementary, fictionized, exposition of Christian Science healing. Being unrationalized, this can probably be considered fantasy, just as stories involving spiritualistic phenomena must be considered as fantasy until science accepts these as facts. It is of little importance in the fantasy field, but should be of interest to students of Christian Science.



The Hex Jonan; New York, The Macaulay Company (1931) 820m.

This is a realistic novel of witchcraft anche the Pennsylvania Dutch earlier, at, and subsequent to the Civil War.

Although it is listed in Bleiler, there is only one incident in the early part of the book, quite similar to the one narrated by a. Merritt, of houling which could be considered supernormal. As a picture of rural life, it seems as theatic to me.

Three sisters, triplets, are willed the line of an aunt, and are pleased to be able to leave the domination of their drunken and shiftless father, though sorry to leave their mother in his hands.

Almost by chance, Elizabeth gets the inheritance of the local hemer's power, and with the assistance of her sisters is successful in carrying on his work among the superstitions. She and Mary lose the stock and equipment of the farm because they do not understand takes or finance, and being illiterate cannot survive without heming. Their quiet sister anne is not troubled by the sexual cravings of her more dominant sisters, who come to rivalry over the affectless of a 2D-year-old school-teacher who has seluced a 16-year-old struct of its, this action placing him within the power of Elizabeth. She blackmails him into complying with her lemands, and becomes pregnant as a result. Parturition coming on as the result of a fall caused by Mary in a dispute, the baby is still-born, but the evidence of Elizabeth's inability to use for knowledge to assist herself loses her the faith of her cust mers, and the girls come near starving.

Ultinately they are taken to the poorhouse, and die.

This movel is not important as fantasy, but I consider it a genuine regional movel, portraging the life of the period in accurate terms. It treats witchcraft as experstition, with the single exception noted above, which is a rationalistic arpraisal of the healing which does occasionally take place.

It is well written, and the author takes an impartial view in his portrayal of the situation. His mature treatment of his theme makes the book worth hearing permanently.



Ward, Christopher

Foolish Fiction; New york, Henry Holt and Company; Illustrated; (1925, Publishers)

These fictional sketches are parodies of popular novels and convey little information to those who have not read them.

I am surprised to find that only Robinson Crusoe has been read by me, although I have many of the novels in my collection. It is difficult for me to decide whether this book should be classified as literary criticism or humor rather than straight fiction, since it is obviously not serious fiction.

THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

FirstCity Trust

Ward, Christopher

Gentleman into Goose; with Wooden Engravings by C. W. and C. W. Jr.; London, T. Werner Laurie, Ltd., no date 78p.

Inspired by Garnett's "Lady into Fox", this novelette describes the transformation of Timothy Teapot into a gander and the life of his wife who must explain his absence and see his gradual assumption of farmyard life with the geese.

This humorous fantasy has nothing unusual to recommend it, apart from the mock-serious treatment of the theme.



Ward, Don Anthology.

Black Magic: Thirteen Chilling Tales; A Mayflower Book New York, Dell Publishing Co., Inc. (0627) 252 p.

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A Wizard, A Garden of Evil, A Werewolf					
11.A Narrow Escape Lord Dunsany 208	3				
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13. The Man Upstairs Ray Bradbury 24					

I read from this volume 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, having read all the others previously. This is a good anthology, but I have the stories in other volumes with some exceptions.

1. John Silence - Physician Extraordinary.

2. The Last Circle.

3. Thirty Strange Stories. The Plattner Story. Short Stories.

4. Fancies and Goodnights.

5. Fearful Pleasures.

6. Madame Fears the Dark. Bloodstock and Other Stories.

7. More Ghost Stories of an Antiquary. Collected Ghost Stories. Best Ghost Stories.

8. They Return at Evening. A Ghostly Company.

9.

- 10. E. Pluribus Unicorn.
- 11. The Last Book of Wonder.

12.

- 13. Dark Carnival. The October Country.
- 2. New minister's reading of old one's books revives the evil ghost of the original owner.
- 4. A couple of lechers are transformed into dogs by a beautiful sorceress.
- 5. By refusing payment for a cheese formula, a man is cursed to death by gypsies.
- to death by gypsies.

 9. A snooping wife is killed by her maid, who then moves into a warm room.
- 10. An unusual thinker, in revenge for the killing of his brother, tortures his unthinking girl killer, and the voodoo doll shows the consequences.

11.A magician's helper supplies the wrong ingredients, so the

City of London escapes destruction.

13.A boy eviscerates a sleeping werewolf or vampire (more likely) as he has seen his grandmother prepare a chicken.



Ward, Maisie

Gilbert Keith Chesterton; Illustrated; New York, Sheed & Ward, 1943 (Second Printing, September, 1943); Appendices Acknowledgments; Bibliography; Index 685p.

This is probably the definitive biography of Chesterton and refers to Cammaerts' literary and philosophical study.

Chesterton is said to have had a consistently Catholic viewpoint although he did not join the Roman Catholic Church until late in life. He appears to have been able cursorily to read, and instinctively to assimilate the information essential to the writing of his many books, some of which were recognized as superior to those which were written by the recognized authorities on their subjects, though he was convicted of errors of detail often.

Totally impractical, his wife Frances cared for him as for a child. Their marriage was a good one. Chesterton's attitude was one of caring for individuals, but condemning groups; he denounced both socialism and capitalism, and felt that Distributism—the development of small propertyholders and craftsmen—was the best answer to the development of a democratic and independent citizenry. He was especially critical of capitalism, as was Belloc, pointing out that it required the waste of resources while people starved.

There is much information concerning Chesterton's relationships with the other literary men of his day, and of his family and friends. He appears to have loved men and women as individuals, and to have been generous to a fault.

An absent-minded genius.



Ward, Mary Jane

The Other Caroline: A Novel; New York, Crown Publishers, Inc. (1970, author), Tecond Printing, Teptember, 1970 216p.

This is a very good novel about a woman driven into an amnesia and the belief that her brain has been transplanted into the body of another woman by the pressures of marriage with a man who has accepted the patronage of a business man who controls their lives and leads them into living beyond their means. While in the "tate mental institution, she is given the task of typing up the handwritten journal of her own diary in the hope that it will aid her in recovering her memory and identity, which apparently it does, eventually.

I fault this novel only because it does not adequately explain the recovery from amnesia, and the elimination of the obsession with brain transplant. As a case history of business control of the private lives of people, it is an exemplary novel.

I should read the author's early novel The Cnake Pit.

THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

C A S E F É T E '

FirstCity Trust

"Spiritism" by Edward B. Warman, A.M.; Chicago, A.C.McClurg & Co. 1910.

After 35 years of investigation, Warman concludes:

1. Accepts the phenomena, but not the alleged cause.
2. Every phenomenon may be accounted for on scientific grounds.

3. Phenomena are not due to or ever dependent upon, discarnate spirit.

4. There is no valid scientific evidence that spirits of the dead

have ever communicated in any manner with the living.

5. Not all spirit mediums are frauds, but this remnant is self-deceived when attributing their power or their information to spirits.

6. Clairvoyance and clairaudience are independent of disembodied

spirits.

7. Premonitions and impressions are given to all; for all who will may hear the "still, small voice."

Warman had been an impressionist from childhood; his impressions having been verified were the cause of his early and continuous investigations.

P.42-4: "I had charge of forty French Canadian expert fishermen, whom I had taken to the mouth of Saginaw River, but a short distance from Saginaw Bay. Ere the ice moved out I had occasion, many times, to cross and re-cross the river on my trips to and from Bay City. On this special occasion I was impressed that there was unusual danger, and my many previous experiences had taught me the wisdom of heeding the warning and making the necessary preparation. In consequence of this I procured a long stout rope and fastened one end of it securely around my body, and the other end around the body of one of the fishermen who was to accompany me.

"We walked quite a distance apart, enough so as to keep the long rope almost taut. We also walked in a line with one another, not one in advance of the other. Feeling a security in the comparative firmness of the ice, I became a trifle careless; instead of looking straight ahead,

I was looking in other directions at the snow-covered landscape.

"How often in life we feel most secure when we are nearest danger, and in that sense of security fail to hear the warning voice! In this case I had previously heard, listened, heeded, and made necessary preparation. At the very moment, however, an unguarded moment, being too objectively active, I did not get the impression of immediate kardix danger, but felt myself lifted bodily (an indescribable feeling), and in less time than I can write it I was, by this unseen power, borne across an iceless area, where the water was deepest, a distance of many feet in width—so wide, I could neither have stepped nor jumped it.

"If I was surprised, what about my companion? As soon as he felt the rope becoming more taut he looked in my direction and saw me moving through the air without any effort on my part. There was no break in the ice at his end of the line. He moved cautiously toward me. Had he not been tied, being very superstitious, he would have moved very rapidly in the opposite direction. He could not understand it; neither could I." At the time of the experience, Warman thought disembodied spirits had saved him; but later concluded that his own embodied spirit

using the kinetic energy resident within himself had done so.

P. 47. "I have nver witnessed anything genuine in the line of materialization."

P.52-3. Dr. M. A. Veeder of Lyons, N.Y., with four others standing around a table, placed the tips of the fingers of their right hands under the photographic plate prepared in the ordinary manner and enclosed in the plate-holder. The fingers of the left hands were placed

on the top of the plate.

After concentrating the attention for a few seconds on a ball of surgeon's gauze on the floor, the plate (not having been exposed during the experiment) was duly devoloped. The result? There, at the exact spot where the finger tips of the experimenters had centred, was an object clearly photographed, of the size, shape, and general appearance of the ball of gauze.

Warner, Jr., Harry

All Our Yesterdays: an informal history of science fiction fandom in the forties; Introduction by Wilson Tucker Chicago, Advent: Publishers, Inc., 1969; xxi plus 336p. inchiding index of 3lp. 1st Paperback Printing, March, 1971.

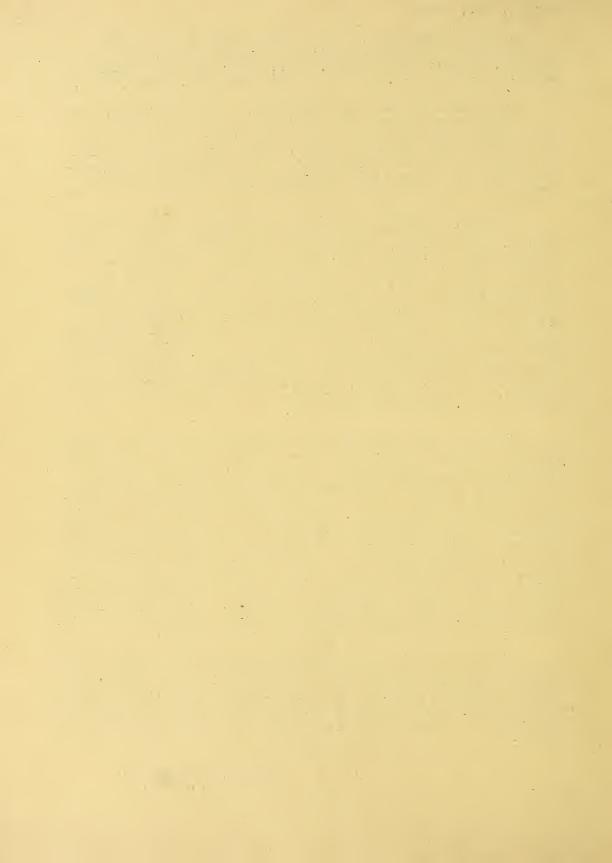
Excepting possibly Sam Moskowitz, it is doubtful if any individual known to me could have produced a more thorough and accurate description of the events which followed those detailed in "The Immortal Storm". Both the author and the publishers are to be congratulated for a monumental achievement which will serve as a permanent reference to the personalities and activities characterizing the decade it covers.

Although touching both earlier and more recent history to the extent necessary to portray the significance of some crucial developments, Warner has not provided a final chapter summarizing his view of the relationship of this decade to others. Only incidentally in the text with reference to changes brought about by technology and other social factors is comment made which might be helpful in guaging the effect which fandom as such had on the evolution of fantasy and science fiction which was presented to the general public in magazine and book publication. Despite the current publicity given the fantasy field (which seems to me to have been due to academic attention from the universities rather than press notice of fan activities), fandom, both organized and unorganized, is still practically unknown to the vast majority of readers and students of the field.

There are many similarities between the fields of fantasy and psychical research. In both, the individuals whose influence has served to strengthen and sustain the idealistic and practical development of the fundamental interests engaging attention have had to overcome the prejudice which the "lunatic fringe" creates in the mundane world. Both deal with subjects which are primarily understandable only by the strong exercise of the imaginative faculty, and which are consequently open to criticism from all orthodox knowledge disciplines. In both, the literatures are considered in mutually exclusive terms, and neither is assimilated in "mainstream" knowledge; yet each has produced classics which have profoundly influenced thinkers whose work is mundanely accepted. The current search for meaning in human existence may cause a re-appraisal of the values involved in both of these neglected fields.

Warner's book has an importance greater than that of most of the individuals whose activities have been chronicled, because it focusses attention on a numerically small, but potentially impressive, segment of human beings whose devotion to an unpopular field of literature has made it possible to develop and expand to proportions unimaginable to devotees in its early stages.

Chester D. Cuthbert.
June 1st, 1971.



Warner, Jr., Harry

A Wealth of Fable (The History of Science Fiction Fandom in the 1950's); Illustrated;, New York, Fanhistorica Press, First Edition, #62 of 1000 retail copies; 3 volumes, wraps, (1969, Warner); Mimeographed, letterhead size

Van Nuys, California, SCIFI Press, edited by Dick Lynch; Introduction by Wilson Tucker; Illustrated; (1976, 1977, 1992, Warner); Index 456p.

As Librarian- Treasurer of the Winnipeg Science Fiction Society I ordered seven copies of the autographed first edition for members and myself, and enjoyed reading this sequel to Warner's All Our Yesterdays.

I was delighted when the hardcover, with photographs and an index was announced, and ordered copies for Doug Wilchowy and me. I re-read it and found it as interesting and important a record as its predecessor, my notes on which should be consulted.

The escalating prices on important fanzines, and the larger attendances at conventions have confirmed the need of detailed histories of the movement, and the fact of this improved edition being published 16 years after the original certifies the scholarship of the author.

Unfortunately, Alastair Cameron is not mentioned as author of Fantasy Classification System.

I showed this book to Garth Danielson, Steve George, and Greg Ketter and his wife on October 3, 1992 in my home. It may result in additional sales of the book.

The detailed index makes unnecessary notes of the contents. An invaluable reference.

THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

FirstCity Trust

A Medium for Murder; New York, David McKay Company, Inc.(1977), (1976, author) 192p.
v.t. A Nice Way to Die

Mrs. Charles, a Tarot card reader and clairvoyante, is consulted by a woman later murdered who gives her a necklace which ten years later leads to the exposure of the murderess, a madwoman whose desire for money causes her to commit the crimes. Mrs. Charles believes in her psychic perceptions, and the fault I find with this story is that the necklace itself did not psychometrically disclose the murderess.

Having divorced three husbands, all of them her faulty choices, her psychological perceptions certainly did not do her any good, either.

Apart from these flaws in the depiction of Mrs. Charles, this story involves a lot of old people with trivial interests and gossippy tendencies, most of them prejudiced against her because of circumstantial evidence and accusing her of having murdered at least one of the victims, and a Police superintendent, now retired, who also suspects her.

Mercifully short, this novel has no appeal, and is of interest to me mainly because of the indication of the genuine faculties of Mrs. Charles. It is mainly a murder mystery with minimal psychic interest.

THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

First City Trust

Warner, Mignon

A Nice Way to Die; London, (1976, author) v.T. A Medium for Mufder.

see my notes under the variant title.





I'd like to invite your children (ages 3-9) and their friends to join us for a fun-filled, exciting program that will add a new dimension to their lives.

"Island in the Son" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School to be held August 13-17 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. It will help your children learn about 1 Corinthians 13 and discover God's love as shown in Jesus Christ. Exciting games and songs, imaginative crafts, lively recreation and Bible study will hold their interest. And, our island theme provides a fun setting for learning about God.

Enroll your children now by sending this application form in to the church office. Have them join their friends for this exciting time!









St. Mark's Lutheran Church

600 CAMBRIDGE STREET at CORYDON, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3M 3G9 - PHONE 452-4326

ST. MARK'S VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL August 13-17 9 am -12 no on APPLICATION FORM

Name of child	 ·····	,
Address		
Telephone number		
Last grade completed		



Come to Our Vacation Bible School.

The Aerodrome: A Love story; Philadelphia and New York, J. B. Lippincott Company (1946, Reginald Ernest Warner) 336p.
The Aerodrome: A Novel; London, John Lane The Bodley Head (1941, 1941, 1944)
336p.

This is a very well written and possibly important novel contrasting the village life in England with the mechanized and dictatorial but efficient life of the Air Force.

A young man who has married a shallow but lovely girl is singled out by the Air Vice-Marshal and made his personal secretary, is required not to have children, but is made free to have sexual relations with the wives of officers or girls near the base. Brought up as the son of a vicar and his wife, he is told on his 21st birthday that he is adopted, ultimately learns that the vicar's wife is his mother, but the Air-Chief is his father. His enemy, a flight lieutenant, formerly his friend, seduces his wife, but later resumes his friendship and is discovered to be another son of the Air-Chief.

At first impressed with the aimsand efficiency of the Air Force, the young man, after a carefree affair with a courtesan wife of a mathematician whom he later learns to have had an affair with his father, returns to his wife who is the main love of his life, and renounces the Air Force and its inhuman program.

Although it has been classified as fantasy and may not represent conditions as they are or were at the time in England, I am not sufficiently well acquainted with either world to be sure that this does not deserve to be considered as a contemporary novel. I am therefore placing it in my fantasy books.

THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

C A S E F È T E!

FirstCity Trust

Mr. Fortune's Maggot; London, Chatto & Windus, 1927; 251p.

A British priest sets out to convert to Christianity the inhabitants of the South Sea island of Fanua. He is shocked and distressed by their nakedness, which he endeavors to have them clothe; and disturbed by the bevies of naked damsels who assail him. Finally, he chooses as his closest friend a boy named Lueli, and believes he has converted him to Christianity until he finds the boy's idol god embowered in flowers at a distance from their hut.

An earthquake sets the hut on fire, and Lueli's god is consumed, Mr. Fortune having confronted him with it. Lueli saves Mr. Fortune, who has been trapped by the burning harmonium falling on him, but cannot also save his god. He starts mourning to death, and Mr. Fortune realizes that Lueli's god means more to him than Mr. Fortune's God means to himself. He therefore carves a new god for Lueli, admits that he has lost his own, and prepares to leave the island. Lueli is sad to see him go, but happy with his new god; the author's ENVOY is:

My poor Timothy, good-bye! I do not know what will become of you.

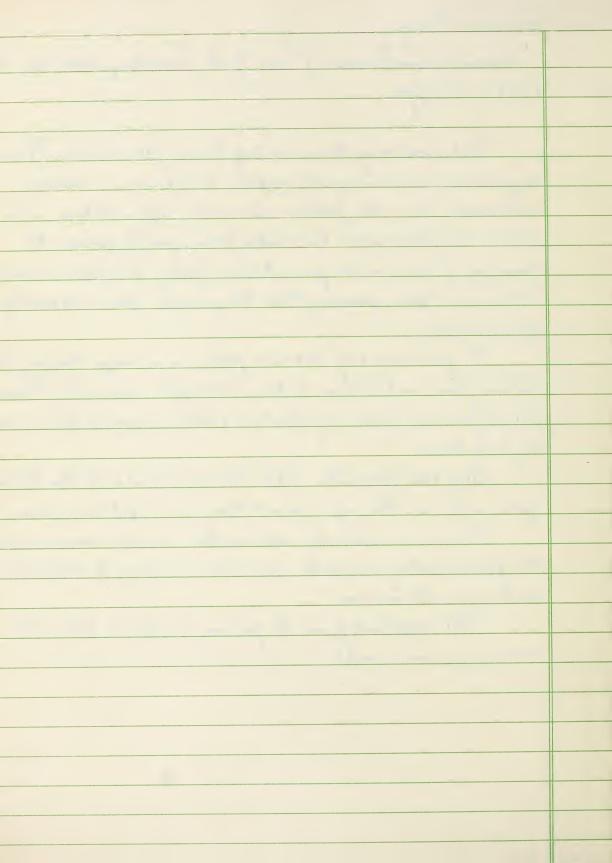
Lueli has been Timothy Fortune's sole convert, and has reverted to his heathen god; and Fortune has concluded that his attempt to convert the natives was a mistake: that their way of life was the right way for them.

Very well written, this novel deserves a place in any good library. It is, of course, only marginally fantasy, and can possibly be considered lost race simply because of the mythical island.



erner, Hilliam Henry "Sacrilegious Hands"; New York, Grunberg, Publisher, Inc., 1925. 305 pp. Last surviving descendant of aaron of the hirites, Naomie as promised in maniage by her father to Wiseman a wealthy, unaturalistic Jew. She falls in love with Dr John Roland who attends her father until fir death which quickly follows his naomi and John, praying that they may be found bound together for all turnity. The great secret of naomi's forther is a may showing the hiding place in Palestine of the "Ork of the Covenant". Wiseman follows Johnand naomin by agents and later in person but is unable to find them. to find them. They have prond the "ark" but are looked with the hiding foliace with it through the working of her father's Curse.

This is an attempty well-written movel, summarrying the Jewish history and faith, and their longing to establish a mation for themselves. Not important from the fantasy vicepoint, but well afore average as a movel



Warren, C. Delves

Some Cases of Sherwood Lang, Detective; London, Drane's 161p. no da te

Contents

1.	The Curse	7*
2.	A Discovery in Devon	47
	The Disappearance of Mr. Reynolds	81
	Mr. Kerr-Financier	112

These novelettes are quite apparently imitations of the Sherlock Holmes stories of Doyle, and only the first is in the fantasy field. Lord Lessington, retired from service in India, believes himself haunted by a dark face in his bedroom which leads him to his library and to a careful survey of the books in one case. Lang holds vigil with him; discovers that a diary in which he had written a curse on a Brahmin seditionist is the goal of the haunter, and dissolves the curse by burning the diary, allowing the seditionist to die in peace.
(2) is the story of the recovery of ancestral treasure

by means of a cryptogram solved by Lang, and brining wealth to

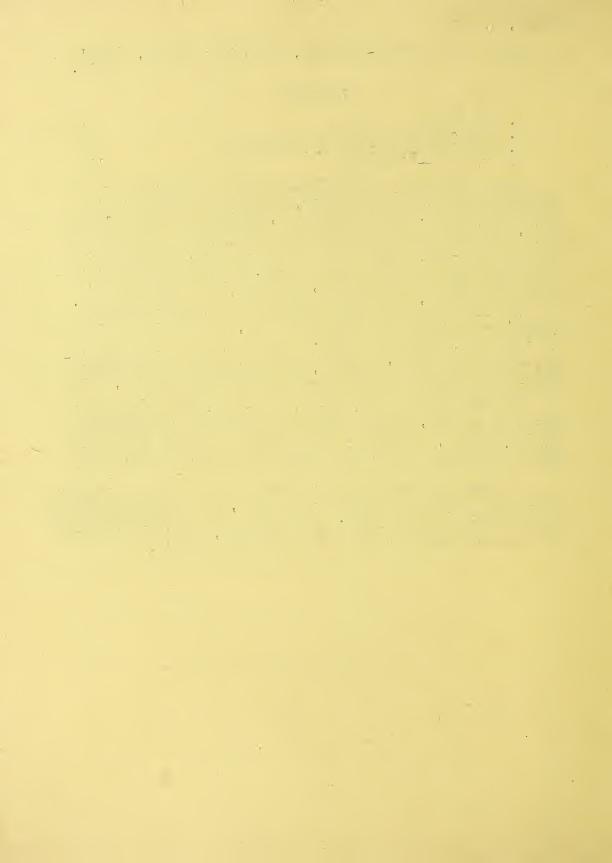
an almost destitute aristocrat.

(3) Lang's deductive powers enable him to solve the kidnapping of his client's friend, who unwittingly had carried papers of religious significance to England from India, being

followed and held for their return by a giant Hindu.

(4) The murder of Mr. Kerr by a school-mate of his son's is solved by Lang, whose powers of observation confound the police Inspector Griffiths, convinced of the guilt of the son because the son's knife was the murder weapon and there had been a difference of opinion between the victim and his son.

Although the one fantasy is sufficient to bring this book within the scope of a fantasy collection, the story is not one of importance in that field. This book should consequently be kept in a mystery and detective collection, and is of interest to those who study imitators of Arthur Conan Doyle.



Warren, C. Delves

Some Cases of Sherwood Lang, Detective: London, Drane's 161p. no date

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Warren, Doug

Demonic Possession; New York, Pyramid Books (#A3615); (1975, author)

Unfortunately lacking an index, this is still an important reference to modern cases, summarizing the case on which Blatty based his novel The Exorcist, the witchcraft and demonism ideas of earlier beliefs and giving excellent summaries of modern cases in the U.S.A.

Warren seems to have been mainly the writer of the book and to have depended on Carle Bensen for the research and interviews with exorcists and mediums. Louise Huebner contributes her view that she is happy to be possessed and uses ther communicants to enhance her psychic powers. A telephone conversation with a girl at La Vay's headquarters gives good ideas of the Satan philosophy and there are some excellent poltergeist cases described.

I found this book convincing and thought-provoking.

Chester D. Cuthbert April 10, 1998

3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

First City Trust

Warren, J. Russell

This Inward Horror; New York, E. P. Dutton & Company, Inc., 1948

British Title: This Mortal Coil



Warren. J. Russell

This Mortal Coil; London, The National Book Association Hutchinson & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.; (1947), (March, 1949) 272p.

American Title: This Inward Horror

Each edition bears a different quotation to support the title used.

Richard Cardington, a young, successful, architact, finds himself in the body of Spike Ugberry, with only the memory of having gone to a dentist and being placed under gas. Spike is a thief who has successfully robbed a jewel merchant in the latter's car on the highway, escaping from the automobile accident in which the merchant is killed, secreting the jewels, and returning in a lorry to London. At the room of his mistress Belle Mather an alibi is concocted, and Spike escapes the police with the assistance of Father Mabane and Broadbent, a man who assists the rehabilitation of criminals because he had falsely accused his own son of a crime and the son committed suicide.

While employed by Broadbent, Spike's body becomes refined because of the spirit of Cardington inspiring it, and Richard finds his wife, son and daughter through Mabane's discovery of a newspaper report of the death in the dentist's chair. The priest believes Richard's incredible story, but warns him against contacting his wife, who would naturally recoil from thinking of her husband's spirit in Spike's repulsive body. Nevertheless, Richard becomes, after a trial stay in another boarding house, a resident in his wife's home, where his wife and children come to love and trust him.

He is recognized by former criminal associates, but repudiates them; in retaliation for his apparent betrayal of them, they point him out to the police. In the court case which follows, Richard is freed because the jury retains some doubt of his guilt; but Father Mabane tells Richard's story to his wife, who has always felt the presence of her former husband when she is with Spike, and despite his changed body, she accepts him again as her husband.

Though unconvincing mainly because the personality of Richard is never remembered by Spike, who has only his own life in his memory cells as he narrat s the story, this is a most unusual presentation of the transfer of souls story in its insistence that the spirit transcends personality. Apart from the necessarily contribed incident of Spike's remembering the dentist's gas treatment only of his (Richard's) invading personality, this is an interesting and well-written mystery story, with definite fantasy import.



Waterloo, Stanley

A Tale of the Time of the Cave Men: Being The Story of Ab; 4 page Illustrations by Simon Harmon Vedder; London, A. & C. Black, Ltd., 1924

(First published as The Story of Ab, October, 1897)

This is a "telescoped" portrayal of the history of the Cave Man, told well and simply, with the discovery of fire, spears, the bow and arrow, concentrated into the story of a few people in a limited territory. Although intended for children, I found it interesting. Having read many other similar stories, there is nothing in this which is original.

(See Nida: Ab, The Cave Man, for small children's version of the book)

(This is the book which Jack London used as the basis for Before Adam.



Waters, R. C.

Auto-Suggestion for Mothers; New York, George H. Doran Company (1924), Publishers 93p.

This book offers sound psychological advice on applying the principles of the Coue system to the education and health of our children. Coue endorsed the author's knowledge of his system and his teaching of English in the Nancy School.

Chester D. Cuthbert May 14, 2002

CUSTOMER CENTRE

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On Borrowed Time; New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc. (1937, Watkin) 269p.

Julian Northrup, an 80-year-old individualist, is left to bring up his grandson Pud because his Doctor son and the son's wife are killed in an automobile accident. Finding that he has the power of making his wishes come true, he asks that death be suspended for sixteen years, until his grandson will be 21 and have finished his education and can become a doctor like his father.

Death is represented by Mr. Brink who has the nower of invisibility. Mr. Brink is imprisoned by Julian in an apple tree in the back yard, around which Julian has a strong iron fence built. Mr. Brink still has power to kill and anyone who eats and apple or touches the tree dies.

Julian's wife's death is the event which forces Julian to recognize his mortality and exercise his wish. He hires as housekeeper the daughter of a widow who is loved by the son of the local minister, but does not follow the religious precepts of his father, a kind man. Made pregnant, the girl tries to commit suicide by touching the tree, but in the darkness misses. The minister and Julian are kind and advise that the young folk elope so that the girl can have the baby secretly.

Among those freed from death are a misanthrope dying of cancer, who has willed to his landlady \$40,000, but buys her a limousine before his death is suspended; a man who tries to have Julian declared insane so that his grandson can be taken from his control, and is shot by Julian; and flies and insects whose death is attempted by a doctor doubting Julian's control of death.

This is a very human fantasy on the theme of "death takes a holiday", a kindly story which points out the benefits as well as the tragedy of death. Death is portrayed as kindly and patient, not greatly concerned about having his power taken from him for 16 years. When death termts Fud to near the treee, and he falls back from death to become a paralyxed cripple, Julian frees death and he and Pud welcome their release from life.

Well written and interesting, this is a gentle, philosophical fantasy, but of no great importance apart from its teaching that death can be a blessing.

Note: See Osborn, Paul: On Borrowed Time (Dramatization)



Watson, Colin

Kissing Covens; New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons (1972)
192p.

Ostensibly holding themselves available to succor the victims of black magic and witchcraft practices, a triumvirate of influential men enact the part of the devil when summoned to officiate four times a year at coven celebrations. The general plot of the story is well summarized on the flaps of the dust jacket of the book, but the development of the mystery is slow and unsuspenseful, the characters are neither interesting or personal, being merely props to carry the plot along, and although the book is well written, it is not clear just what the significance of anything is intended to be.

Primarily, the coven meets for sexual congress, but there is one character acting in an advisory capacity who is leader of a psychical research society who gives minor advice, and there is adequate suggestion of the possibility of supernormal efficacy of the black magic rites to place this book in the fantasy field. I can, however, think of no incident which is overtly supernormal.

A police investigation story basically, the witchcraft implications are that folklore societies, when led by sexoriented individuals, can easily become involved in black magic and sadistic and witchcraft practices.

A less than averagely goodnovel.



Watson, Frederick

Mr Kello; with a foreword by William Roughead; London/Bombay Sydney, George G. Harrap & Co. Ltd. (April, 1924; Reprinted with Foreword, January, 1931)

In Bleiler 1 this title is listed as by Ian Ferguson; this was actually the second issue of the book which was originally published as by John Ferguson and its real author's name did not appear until this third issue. I shall send a copy of these notes to Bleiler.

Roughead says that Kello was historical and brought to the attention of Watson by him as "the Parson of Spott" in his book Twelve Scots Trials.

Though dealing with witchcraft, this novel is historical and not fantastic, quite similar to John Buchan's <u>Witch Wood</u> in that respect. Kello is a powerful and dour minister whose lifework is a denunciation of witchcraft about which he has finished writing an exhaustive study. He was executed in Edinburgh on October 4, 1570, apparently because, according to this novel, he sheltered from a mob a young girl accused of wotchcraft whom he knew to be innocent.

(As an aside, many of the titles in Bleiler are there because of the witch or witchcraft factor in the stories, but are not fantasy because no supernormal incidents are alleged, merely the historical beliefs of the time.)

Chester D. Cuthbert March 17, 1996 3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

First City Trust

High Hazard: A Romance of the Far Arctic; New York & Montreal, Louis Carrier & Co., 1929 (1929, Watson) / 346p. London, Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd.,nd 282p.

My attention was drawn to this book by Stuart Teitler (Kaleidoscope Books).

The early part of this book is mundane adventure: Eric Gilchrist has accepted an appointment to take charge for 5 years of White Whale trading post and has gone on board the Lady Rathlin for the journey. The previous day he had rescued from a rascally Chinese two wealthy young girls who had been inveigled into his shop and home, and had saved for one of them a necklace of pearls; their party comes aboard ship as nominally crew because the cargo ship was not licensed for passengers. Though attracted by Della Henricksen, the daughter of the ship's Captain, Eric is dazzled by Coralie Stockton, whose necklace he had saved; but is estranged by her treatment of him. Sangster, a member of her party, is also high-handed; and there is immediate antipathy between the two men.

An apparently drunken crewman comes aboard unknown to the Captain, and is later revealed as a Government Secret Service man on the trail of Sangster, who is captured after he steals Coralie's necklace from Eric, and with assistance robs a party at Prince Rupert as cover for a bullion heist. Sangster's engagement to Coralie is broken by the girl, who has insisted that familiar treatment must await her father's acceptance of the engagement; and Sangster blames Eric, who cannot avoid showing his interest in Coralie.

After leaving Prince Rupert, a storm blows the ship into a northbound icefield; in attempting to escape, most of the crew and passengers are lost. Eric saves the two girls; Sangster and the Government detective fly to their rescue, but their plane fails and is wrecked; the detective is killed and Sangster joins the three. The icebound ship takes them to a volcanic island where they winter and prepare for a long stay when they find that prospectors had lived there for 30 years without being rescued, leaving after their death a fortune in gold and nuggets.

Sangster constructs a plane from parts on the ship, and after forcing his attentions on Della in vain, flies away, promising to send help. Bric and Della become hunting conrades, and on one expedition in a canoe, enter a cavern and find it leads to a chasm over the pit of the volcano, and is inhabited by 9-foot ape-men who menace them. Escaping, they encounter a herd of white elephants, survivors of those who have left their bones and tusks in an elephants' graveyard discovered earlier. Despite Della's instinctive protest, Bric shoots an elephant and is severely injured by its mate; Della saves him but feels that she is rejected because of her Eskimo mother, and renounces him to Coralie, who has been awaiting their return. Then Eric doesn't appear, Della goes in search of him; finds that he and his dogs have been in a



High Hazard (continued)

snowslide and are menaced by a polar bear and cubs, and kills the bear with a knife, but is mortally wounded herself. Coralie ventures away from the ship, rescues Eric, and they marry with Eric reading the service from a prayer-book.

The ship is drawn from its locked position when the ice breaks up; and Eric and Coralie decide to chance going with it rather than stay on the island. They reach Point Barrow and are saved.

Only the last part of the book is fantasy, but it should qualify for that type of collection. If the ape-men are considered a race, this book would also qualify as "lost race".

A copy of this summary is being sent to Stuart Teitler.



The Loved One: An Anglo-American Tragedy; Illustrated by Ttuart Boyle; London, Chapman & Hall; (November, 1948, Third Impression, December, 1948) 144p.

Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books (#823), (1951, 5th ptg, 1961) 127p.

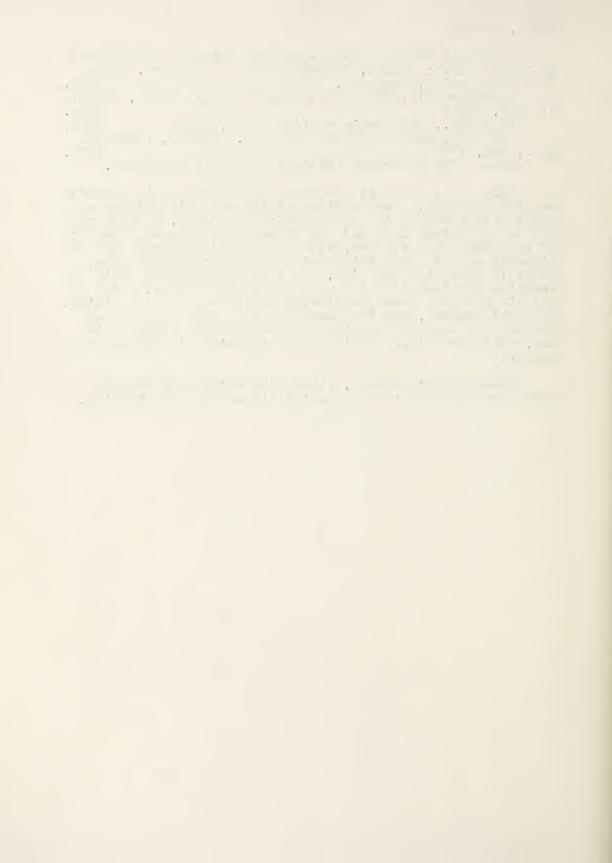
(8th ptg., with movie edition cover, 1965) 127p.

New York, Dell Publishing Co. Inc. (#5080), (Twelfth ptg., May, 1967) 191p.

Note: The paperback editions are not illustrated.

This short novel is a macabre satire concerning Englishmen in Hollywood. One commits suicide when his writing contract with a studio is not renewed; his friend, a young man who has committed lese majesty by becoming funeral director of an animal funeral home, arranges for his funeral with the director and his girl friend at a luxurious funeral home, falls in love with the girl, who is in doubt which swain to accept and writes to a lovelorn column for advice, which she rejects when she loses confidence in it and commits suicide. To avoid scandal, the two swains plot to burn her body and conceal her death by letting out that she has eloped with one, while the other continues to live with his overbearing mother.

Although not fantasy, likely the satire and macabre humor are sufficient to place this in a fantasy collection.



Webster, Henry Kitchell

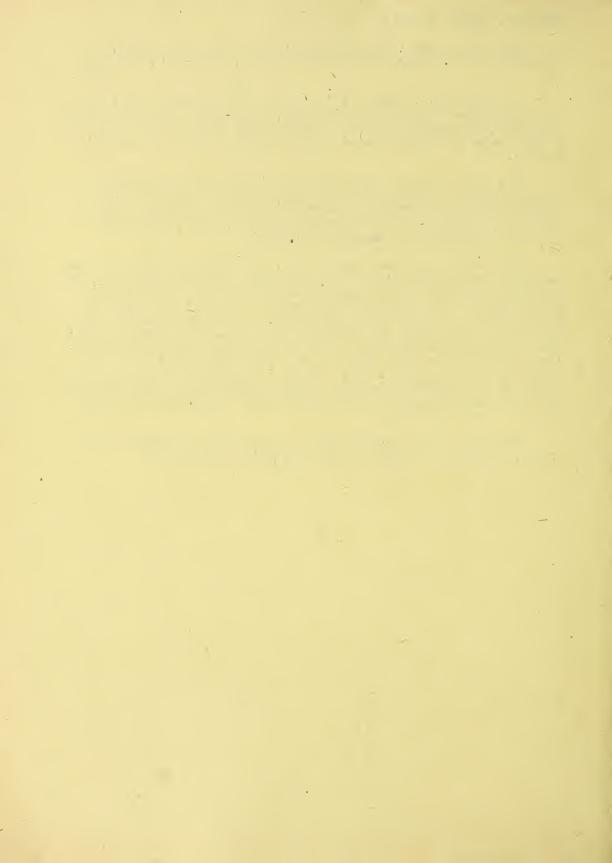
The Ghost Girl; Frontispiece; New York and London, D. Appleton and Company, 1913 (Publishers), (1912-1913 Munsey) 323p.

A beautiful blonde girl's body found frozen in the ice remains unidentified until Jeffrey, an artist returning from vacation, recognizes her as a mysterious girl he has seen in Paris where he has had some inexplicable experiences in his studio.

The "Dr. Watson" who tells the story and accompanies Jeffrey during the unravelling of the mystery, is a lawyer living with his wife and (daughter and son-in-law?). All have been involved in a previous mystery, likely made the subject of another of Webster's books.

The story is ingeniously told, and interesting. An eccentric and wealthy woman has developed partial insanity and believes she has killed her niece by thrusting pins into a photograph of the girl who has officially perished from the plague three years before in Europe. Jeffrey had seen her two years previously in Paris on a bridge, but suspects that she is being impersonated by an adventuress using spiritualists to impose on the rich woman. This turns out to be the case, the adventuress being a half-sister of the blonde, a witch who contests with her cousin a doctor who has fostered the old woman's mania by presenting her to his aunt as the ghost of the dead girl.

This is a very good example of the rationalized ghost story, though it is obviously a mystery throughout.



Wedeck, Harry E.

Dictionary of Magic; New York, Philosophical Library; (1956, Publishers); Selective Bibliography 105p.

This might as well have been entitled a dictionary of demonology or witchcraft since many of the entries refer to these at some length. It is curious that in so many cases of exorcism the alleged demons name themselves according to the beliefs of Christian teachings, much as the gods of Haiti present themselves with the characteristics of their believers' faith.

On page 4, Alesteir Crowley is said to have believed himself the reincarnation of Edward Kelley, the associate of Dr. John Dee.

Also, Alice Kyteler, the Irish witch is said to have poisoned her four husbands and practised sorcery. This is eerily like the White Witch of Rose Hall. Was Alice reincarnated?

Magical practices like divination are defined, superstitions mentioned, and although this is a useful reference it is shorter than Wade Baskin's work which incorporates much of this one.

Chester D. Cuthbert May 31, 1998 3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

First City Trust

The Black Flame, with a New Introduction by Sam Moskowitz; San Francisco, A Tachyon Publication, (October, 1995; (1938, Better Publications Inc. renewed, 1964) (1995, Weinbaum Estate) (XXVI plus 202p.)

The discovery of a carbon copy of the original manuscript of this novel prompted publication of this complete version of the story; earlier editions had thousands of words excised.

Emerging from suspended animation far in the future, Tom Connor is nursed back to health by a beautiful girl who is part alien and with whom he falls in love despite his having divorced his wife Ruth under disagreeable circumstances.

He joins with his new love in a rebellion against the Master of Urbs, who quickly defeats the rebels; tries to contend against the power and beauty of Margaret of Urbs, sister of the Master and like him an Immortal. She fascinates him and he finally recognizes that he loves Margaret, who gives up her immortality in order to bear children.

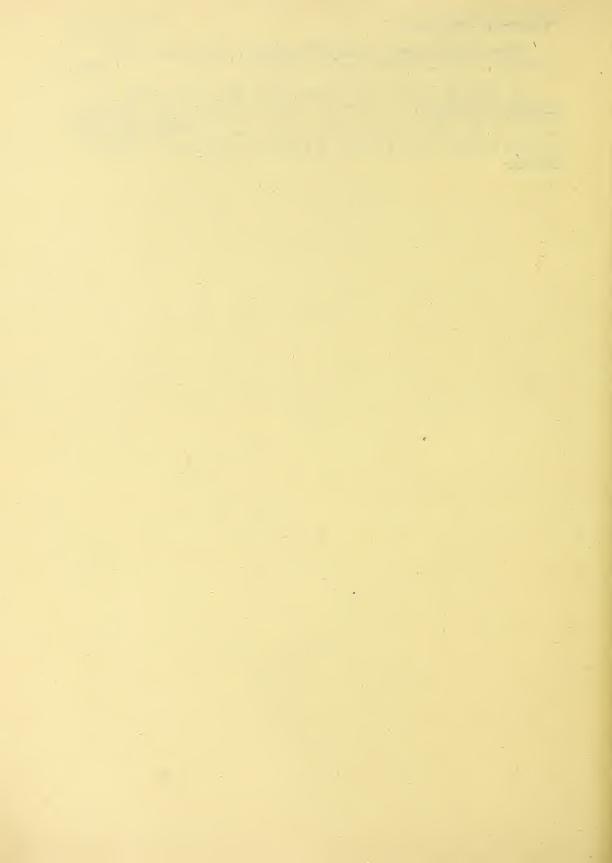
Primarily a love story, this portrayal of immortality gives reasons for its not being a blessing. The dialogue is very good; the writing superior to most fantasy writing of its time, and the story deserves the praise it received in its original abbreviated printings.

Chester D. Cuthbert June 20, 1996

3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 First City Trust

The Black Flame; Toron to/Winnipeg, Harlequin Books (January, 1953), (Publishers) (#205) 223p.

I believe I read this story from the first issue of Startling Stories, or from the Fantasy Press first edition, before I started taking notes of the books I read. It is a story of the future under the domination of a beautiful and dominant woman, not greatly differing from Fearn's Golden Amazon.



The Dark Other; Los Angeles, Fantasy Publishing Co., Inc., 1950 (1950, Publishers) 256p.

Although I was aware that this is a dual personality novel, it was not highly recommended and I did not read it until Jim Hoare expressed interest in buying it.

Although the beginning of the novel was spoiled by an excessive chatty dialogue and unimportant persiflage, when the story got started I found it a very interesting and surprisingly informed study of multiple personality. Since it was written before most of the modern studies were published it was influenced particularly by the Stevenson story, and probably by movie versions of it; but there were few case histories of the kind published excepting by the Societies for Psychical Research and I wonder if Weinbaum studied these.

Falling in love with Nicholas Devine, Patricia Lane is puzzled by Nick's hesitancy in taking advantage of her obvious romantic interest in him. She discovers that he is afraid of "the other", an evil side of his personality from childhood which has immersed him in trouble and problems for which he had to take blame. No one understood his problem, and he was constantly in a struggle for control of his mind against "the other" so was mild and hesitant, having an independent income enabling him to be a writer, but slow to assume any decisive role in life.

The struggle for dominance over Pat's body endangers her whenever "the other" is in control; he is brutal and bent on raping her; and she discovers a strange pleasure in masochistic reactions to the maltreatment. Becoming convinced of the alien and evil influence of "the other", she and the normal Nick enter into a suicide pact as the only final solution of their dilemma, but are rescued by Dr. Horker, her next-door neighbor who has commenced treatment of Nick through psychoanalysis, but has been faced with a display of supernormal mesmeric power by "the other" which he cannot defeat. Pat shoots Nick, by chance killing a miniature double of the normal brain, which is excised by Dr. Horker, leaving Nick normal.

Horker explains to Pat that some cancerous conditions display an attempt to build up into organisms, and that he does not understand to what powers the second brain might have attained.

This book is worth retaining for study.

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Dawn of Flame and Other Stories; First Edition, Copyright, 1936, by Margaret Weinbaum; Printed by Ruppert Printing Service, Jamaica, N. Y.; Sponsored by The Milwaukee Fictioneers and Milwaukee Chapter, American Fiction Guild; Portrait Photo.

Contents

1.	Dawn of Flame	17
2.	The Mad Moon	99
3.	A Martian Odyssey	× 129
4.	The Worlds of If	165
5.	The adaptive Ultimate	187
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Foreword

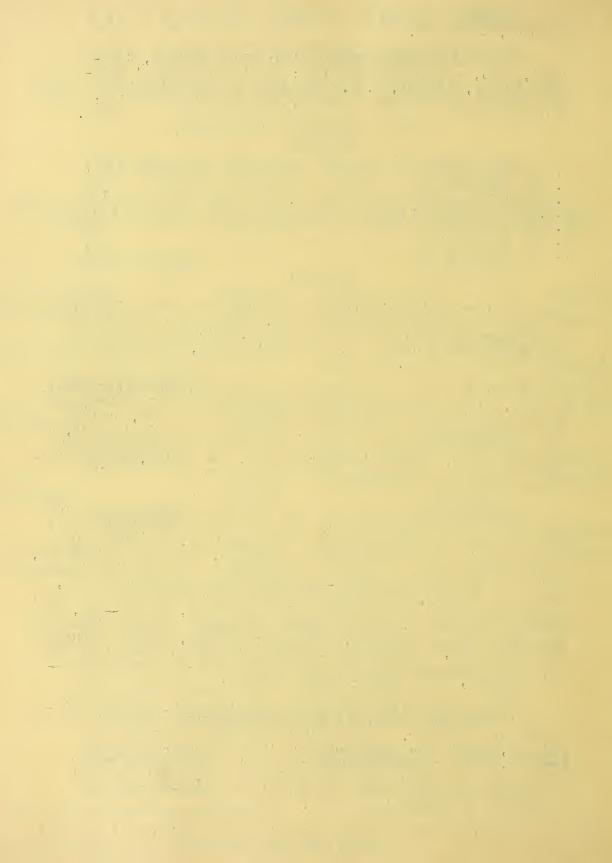
The stories in this book are selected from the writings of the late Stanley Grauman Weinbaum. All have been published in magazine form except "Dawn of Flame", which was completed only a short time before Mr. Weinbaum's death, and was one of his favorite stories.

The collection is intended as a memento by The Fictioneers, a small, active group of professional writers in Milwaukee, and is made possible by the kind assistance of his widow, by the painstaking efforts of Raymond A. Falmer for The Fictioneers, by the thousands of readers of "science fiction" stories who knew and favored Mr. Weinbaum's xxxxxxx work, and lastly, by the kindness of magazine owners in reassigning congrishts to various stories for inclusion here.

Stanley Weinbaum seemingly was not aware during his youth that he would become a writer. Yet those who knew him in adult life and knew his work and his working methods, and those who passed on his stories in editorial offices, realized that he was, as the phrase goes, "a natural born writer". He had the gift of narrative to a marked degree—narrative free from archaicisms, from redundancies, from frills and wordy furbellows of all kinds. To him the story was the thing: it came first, second—yes, and third in importance. He applied his talents to the telling of each story in its simplest, most direct manner, and he shunned the vague term, overstatement, the smallest circumlocution. He was a realist in his writing and in his every-day personality—but a humane, not a seamy-minded, realist.

After a term at the University of Wisconsin, Stanley Weinbaum first entered the business world to utilize his training as a chemical engineer. From youth he had been fascinated by science, applied science much more than theoretic or "pure" science. From chemical engineering work he turned to two or three minor fields by way of experimentation, and it was not until 1932 that he reached the decision to try clothing his scientific knowledge in fiction.

Possessing an extremely retentive mind, Weinbaum found that



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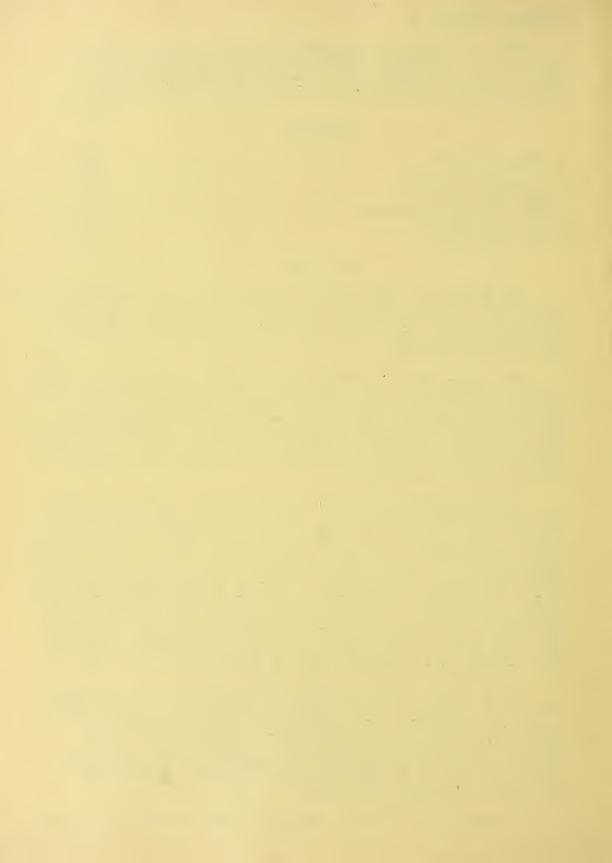
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in gathering his immense reading background he had unconsciously absorbed awareness of the tools of the writing craft. But he was greatly interested in the problems of technique, humbly anxious to better himself in any way; and he never ceased questioning friends as to how he might improve his style. He was equally anxious to piece into fictional plausibility the seemingly unrelated and abstruse facts of speculative science, as it might be termed, just as Jules Verne, H. G. Wells, and others, forecast with amazing accuracy many important inventions of modern times.

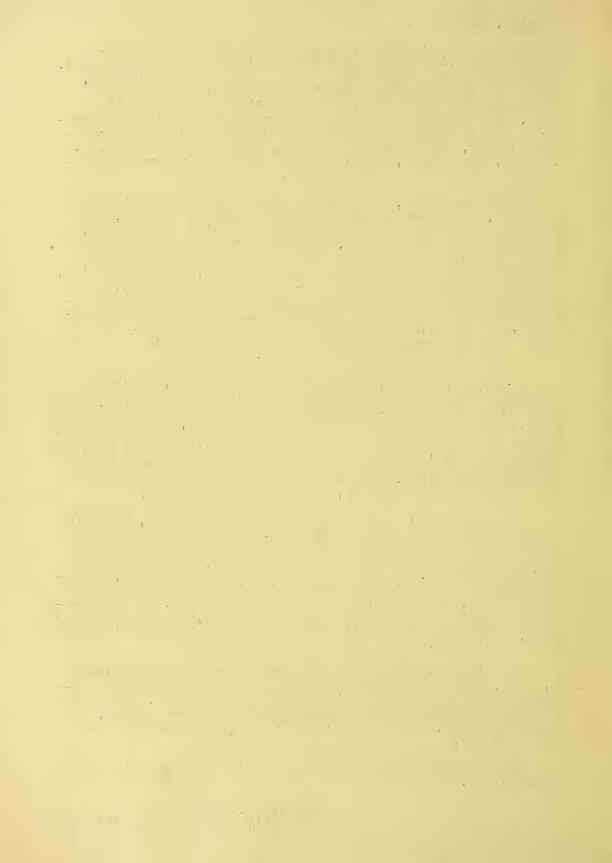
As he developed, beginning to feel the potentialities of his tools, the fascination of thinking stories through, the drudgery of putting thoughts on paper lucidly and in order, the pleasure of story sales, and the thrill of reader approval, Stanley Weinbaum rose to the top flight of science fiction writers in the United States. That he would, in a short time, have been widely regarded as pre-eminent in this field, is the belief of many who knew both the man and his work intimately. He possessed a remarkable intelligence, a vast fund of information, quick wit, and the capacity for taking pains. He was gifted with the talent for reproducing human speech and emotions. He was sympathetic to all men.

Raymond A. Palmer, another Milwaukee writer, brought Stanley Weinbaum to a meeting of The Fictioneers with its round dozen of members. Weinbaum at once became a unit in this group. The Fictioneers, which at this writing, retains ninety percent of its original membership after five years of fortnightly meetings, seemed the kind of writers' group to which he wished to belong. When he died he left a chair vacant that will never be filled. He carried the heartfelt affection of his fellow members with him, to be his for all time.

Occasionally brancing out from science fiction, Weinbaum wrote various other types of stories. Several booklength novels in a romantic vein were printed in the most important metropolitan newspapers from coast to coast, and in several foreign countries. He wrote gay stories of young love, adventure stories of men in far places fighting for life and love and treasure, grave problem stories laid at home. He had projected clearly in his mind a very long novel, the type of which may be crudely indicated by mention of Jacob Wasserman's "The World's Illusion."

Only thirty-three years old when he passed away December 14, 1935, Weinbaum undoubtedly was a man of sound ability removed before his writing prime had quite commenced. His death was a loss to thousands of ardently enthusiastic readers, to science fiction, and to all other fiction, for he might well have gone far.

To his memory this collection of his representative work is dedicated.



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The New Adam; Chicago/New York, Ziff-Davis Publishing Company, 1939 (1939, publishers) 262p.

A mutation produces a superman Edmond Hall, a man who needs no friends or companions because he has two minds which commune. Having no interest in the occupations or amusements of humans, he recognizes at an early age that he is an alien.

He finds a schoolmate Evanne attractive, but she is the girl friend of the brightest boy in his class, and it is not until he uses his mental powers to influence her that he is successful in arranging marriage with her. In the meantime he has invented atomic and radiation implements which give him a fortune which he enhances by understanding and using the stock market just before the 1929 crash.

Much of the story is devoted to Hall's development of his intellect and knowledge, and mention of the Encyclopedia Britannica indicates that the author was influenced by J. D. Beresford's The Hampdenshire Wonder. The two minds relate this novel to The Dark Other, and Hall sees Evanne as "The Black Flame", mistress of Urbs, relating this novel to Dawn of Flame and The Black Flame.

Independent of normal morality, Hall does not hesitate to influence other minds, is careless of public opinion, and operates outside the code of normal behavior.

Realizing that his love for Evanne is for her beauty, and that his alien nature does not permit them to have children, Hall meets a woman artist and recognizes her as one of his own species, and has a son by Sarah. They are intellectual mates; she is not attractive physically; and Hall returns to Evanne. His rival intends killing him, and the ending of the story is unclear as to whether he does so.

Although disappointing in treatment and evolvement of the theme, this is an interesting facet of Weinbaum's writing.

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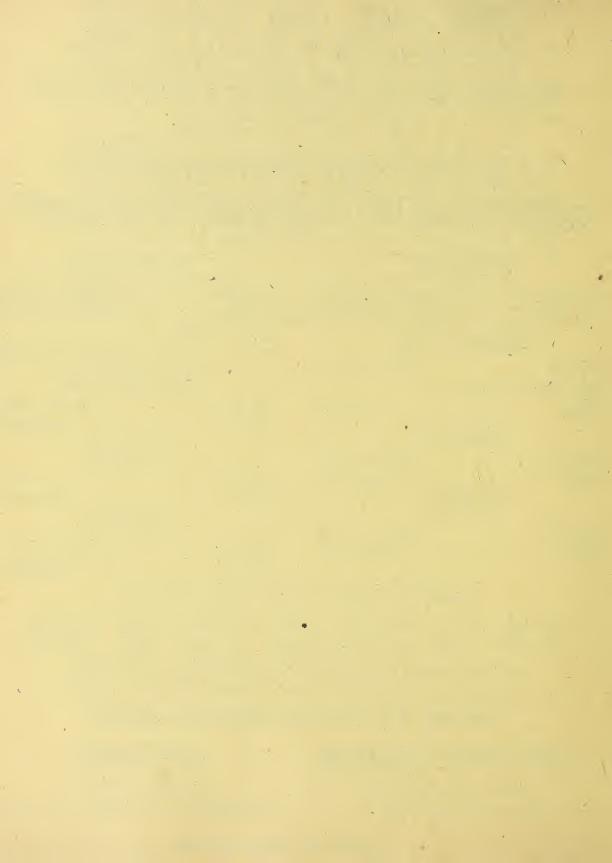
Weinberg, Robert

The Weird Tales Story; West Linn, Oregon, Fax Collector's Editions, Inc., (1977); Illustrated; 134p.

This is really little more than an expanded edition of the editor's WT50. In spite of the price of \$17.50, the covers of the magazine are not reproduced in color, and so lose much of their actual appeal.

The book is rather poorly written and badly edited, the spelling mistakes alone spoiling any effect of scholarship. It is obviously the work of a fan and enthusiast, rather than a critical and literary appraisal, but it is reasonably sure that almost all the important stories ever published in the magazine have been reprinted, either by Derleth or in the British anthologies for the earlier material, and that the value now placed on issues of the magazine is strictly one due to collector demand, rather than merit.

In spite of having read much of the material in WT50, I re-read it from this volume, and enjoyed doing so. So many of the stories and authors mentioned have given me pleasure through the years, that the nostalgic review was fun.



Weinstein, Sol

Loxfinger: A Thrilling Adventure of Hebrew Secret Agent Oy-Oy-7 Israel Bond; A Pocket Book Special, New York, Pocket Books, Inc. (1965, Weinstein) 127p.

A spoof on the James Bond spy thrillers, this humorous novel contains all the elements made famous by the original: the hard-boiled, sexy secret agent, the many-gadgeted car, beautiful and willing women, sadistic fights, and for the minimal fantasy element, a talking porpoise. Weinstein's style is a little slower than suitable for the material, but there are some amusing incidents, some direct and rather raw dialogue allegedly humourous, and the usual enigmatic and suggestive secret code messages.

Probably this would seem more humorous to people more familiar than I am with the original. My impression is of a rather brash, smart-alec and cynical writer, capitalizing on a speaking, rather than a literary talent.

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Weir, Ruth Cromer; and Cavanah, Frances - Anthology

Dell Book of Jokes; Illustrated; New York, Dell Publishing Company (#89); (1945, Publishers) 192p.

The majority of these jokes are releted to the second World War and are topical. Some are worth re-reading, but on the whole are unmemorable.



Weisinger, Mort

The Contest; New American Library of Canada Ltd.; (Fignet #Y4715); (1970, author) 432p.

The author was a fanzine editor in the 'thirties, and I did not know that he had written a novel until I found this book.

It portrays the scene, the organization, the people and the contestants of a Princess American beauty contest, and I believe it entailed a considerable amount of research. The problems and ambitions of the various personalities form the plot, and the narrative centers on a few of the contestants, the organizers, the judges, and the publicity and political considerations.

There are many strengths to the book, but it is contrived towards the end, and there are weaknesses of character portrayal in the working out of the plot, which ends cynically with a nymphomaniac winning the crown. The Corruption of almost all the characters, even a General who uses his position to maneuver in his daughter's favor, is the theme; the most sympathetic characters lose out often.

The explicit sex scenes give undue emphasis to aims of personal gratification, and the commercialization of the contest leaves little room for altruistic activity.

This long book consists of various sub-plots worked out within a period of a week, but is adequate to portray the theme. Despite its weaknesses, this book accomplished its object.

3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

CASEFÈTE!

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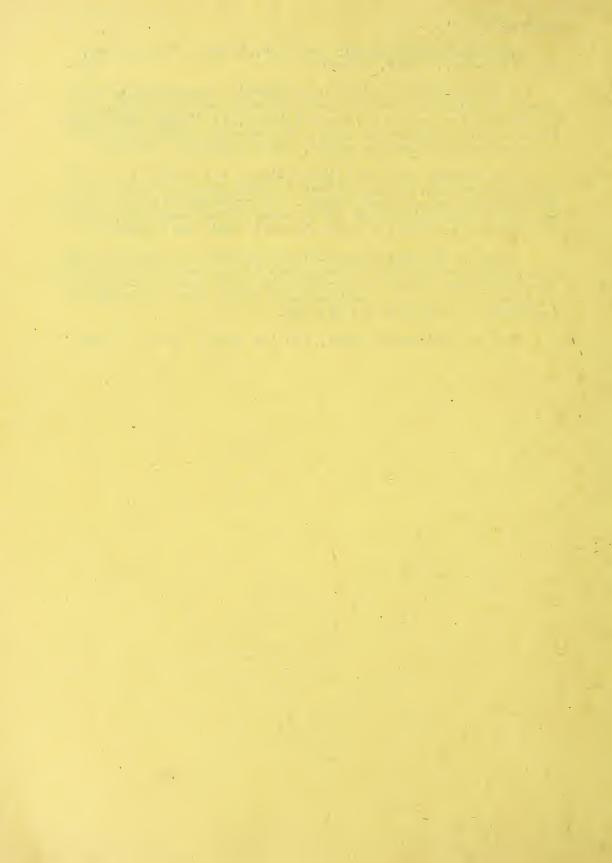
Perfumed and Powdered; New York, Midwood Enterprises, Inc. (#34-810), (1967, Weiss) 218p.

A big bi-sexual editor of a women's fashion magazine is easily lured into love affairs with both men and women, and disobeying the orders of the publisher, is fired. She is unable to get a comparable job, and gradually sinks to a level of drinking and sleeping pills, and contemplates suicide.

Discovering that her disobeidience has actually benefitted the magazine, the publisher is repentent and offers her marriage at the critical moment. He promises also to overlook any lapse into lesbianism if it occurs after marriage, saying that her background and psychological needs must dominate.

This is the usual conventional ending to novels of free love, when the heroine contemplates living happily ever after. The author was unable to convince me that this self-seeking girl could ever live a monogamous married life, or place the interests of anyone above her own.

But the writing is poor, and the book a waste of time.



Weldon, Warren

A Happy Medium: The Life of Caroline Randolph Chapman; Foreword by Hugh Lynn Cayce; Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, Inc. (1970, author)

The life of this American medium resembles that of Gladys Osborne Leonard of England, who, with Mrs. Piper, was claimed to be the greatest medium. Both suffered ill health, both were forecast to become mediums, both had longtime "controls", both dedicated their lives to helping others and both were scientifically investigated without any indication of fraud.

Married to a Cuban plantation owner later becoming blind and dependent, Caroline's control was her daughter who died aged only three. Another guide was Big Joe, an Indian proved to have lived. Carline was able to heal, exorcise, predict correctly, and both resumed contact with their dead husbands.

The lives of these two mediums offer convincing testimony to human survival after death and the reality of a spiritual world.

Chester D. Cuthbert February 2, 1997 3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

- 1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

C A S E F È T E !

FIRST CITY TRUST

Weller, Evelyn L.

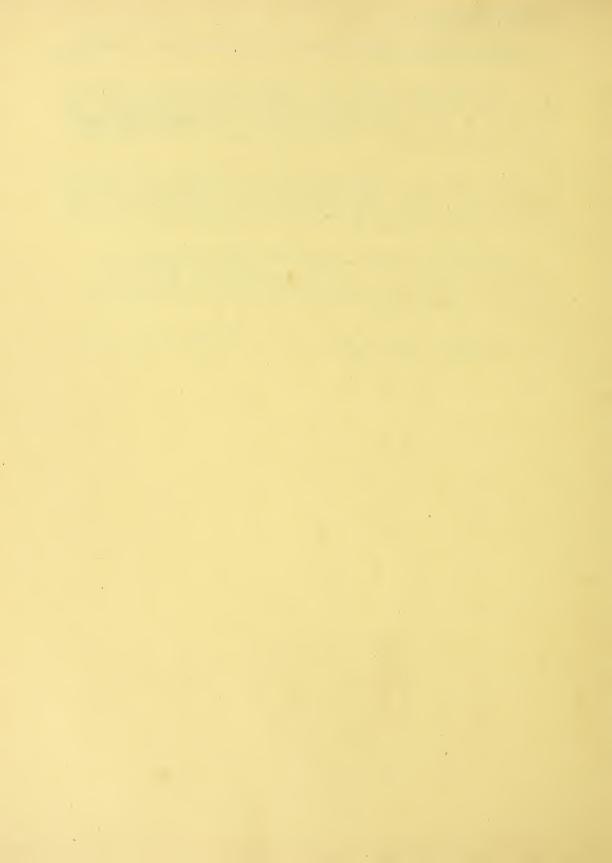
Wings of the Spirit; Toronto, The Musson Book Company Limited (1921) 244pp

An idealistic novel of a nurse consecrated to service, who falls in love spiritually with a married minister. Only the opening and closing chapters show the meeting of these spirits in the spirit world, though they meet in life and declare their love.

The story is of the nurse and her friends, with emphasis on lives devoted to idealistic service to mankind. Nothing in the story, apart from the idealistic view, is out of the ordinary; the attraction of people is thought to be based on the truth of reincarnation.

The opening chapter, where the nurse first sees in a vision her beloved, also shows her communing with great spirits of literature: Carlyle, Emerson and Browning, as if they were as well known and visible in her trance as the spirit of her beloved.

Although it can be classified as fantasy, this novel is of no permanent importance.



Wellman, Paul I.

The Fiery Flower; Garden City, New York, Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1959

An actress married to one man has a sexual encounter with another whose attraction leads her to feel that she is likely to marry him when free to do so.

On a flight to New Zealand, a storm causes her plane to crash into the ocean, and she appears to be the only survivor. She finds herself on a small island where a giant with long hair and beard, and a six-foot woman of Amazonian proportions who is an expert swimmer, attend the needs of a leper settlement under the direction of a doctor, the last survivor of a yacht's shipwreck, who has become a leper and is kept imprisoned by the two god-like people, Jon and Vera, who have adopted their names from the owners of the doctor's yacht. Each came from a different island; the origin of each is obscure; and Elsa Meade, whose knowledge of Greek mythology leads her to identify Jon as vulcan and Vera as his mate, wonders if they may be reincarnations of the cods. Jon finds Elsa more attractive sexually than Vera, and impregnates Elsa after having been unable to make Vera bear his child.

An earthquake devastates the island, killing Jon and Vera, and an investigating team of seismologists rescues Elsa. The story ends with Elsa wondering if her child will be man, god, or monster.

This is rather a sophisticated novel, told from the woman's point of view in the first person, and definitely belongs in the fantasy field. Jon has near-telepathic powers, and is physically and mentally a primitive superman. The story could be classified as either lost race or ".

New York, Permabooks (#M4192), (January, 1961) 197p.

Wells, H. G.

The Anatomy of Frustration: A Modern Synthesis; New York, The Macmillan Company, 1936 (1936, Wells) 217p.

Alleging that he is reviewing a multi-volume set of books by William Burroughs Steele, Wells deplores the world scene of his day and suggests the world state he forecast in his other books. As a reader I found so much repetition from other books that this was a dull chore to read.

The previous owner of this took used a pencil to mark various passages and some were perspicacious and worth considering.

However, I have read many biographies of Wells, and they give a fairly good summary of the contents of many of his fiction and nonfiction books. When I learned that a New York newspaper paid Wells \$1.00 a word to serialize his book "The Holy Terror", I was encouraged to try to make money by writing.

Anyone not having read much of Wells might find this book a fairly good outline of his ideas, but I derived little benefit from it.

Chester D. Cuthbert December 27, 2004

CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Wells, H. G.

Experiment in Autobiography: Discoveries and Conclusions of a Very Ordinary Brain (Since 1866); New York, The Macmillan Company, 1934 (1934, Wells); Illustrated; Index 718p.

Wells devotes almost too much detail to his early life, but presents himself as a modest journalist rather than either a novelist or a sociologist.

There is no doubt that his early poverty brought about his socialist views, though he felt that socialism as others depicted it was faulty. His defence of women's equality brought him favor with feminists and his promotion of the idea of a world state was his aim to the end of his life.

Wells was an independent thinker who commenced studying science rather than what was taught in most schools, and his writings were important enough to give him access to many great people of his day, including dictators.

This book has been used as a reference by later biographers and should be retained.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 10, 2004

CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Wells, H. G.

Kipps: The Story of a Simple Soul; London and Glasgow, Collins (Fontana, Fontana Books (1905, 1961, 1967, 1968, 4th impr. 287p.

Kipps escapes life as a draper when he inherits a fortune. He has given a childhood friend half a sixpence in token of his love for her, but becomes engaged to a social climbing woman who was formerly his teacher in a woodworking class and who forces him to attend parties and other affairs which embarrass him because of his humble upbringing, so he runs off with his earlier love, becomes involved in building an unsuitable house because of his good fortune. However, before it is finished, the brother of his friend loses all Kipps' money and he faces destitution until an actor friend who has got him to invest in a play succeeds with it and Kipps is again wealthy.

The importance of this book to me is that it confirmed me in my decision not to change my lifestyle when I became independent financially. Wealth does not bring happiness if it changes the lifestyle of its recipient.

Much of the story is based on Wells' own life.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 9, 2004







Home - Yahoo! - Help

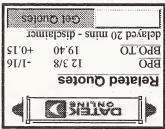




Wednesday April 26, 8:40 am Eastern Time

Company Press Release

[Business | US Market | By Industry | IPO | AP | S&P | International | PRNews | BizWire | CCN]



Valued At US\$685 Million In Strategic 49% Of Two Boston Office Properties Brookfield Announces Agreement To Sell

Alliance With Deutsche Bank Realty Advisors

office properties in Boston. company. Deutsche Bank Realty Advisors will acquire a 49% interest in two of Brookfield's landmark 100% indirectly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Bank A.G., a multi-national financial services Properties, has formed a strategic office property alliance with Deutsche Bank Realty Advisors, a news; TSE:BPO. - news) today announced that its New York-based subsidiary, Brookfield Financial TORONTO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 26, 2000--Brookfield Properties Corporation (NYSE:BPO -

assumed by the purchasers. The transaction is expected to close prior to year-end. approximately US\$169 million for the 49% interest with US\$168 million of property related debt to be properties, based on a value of US\$685 million. Brookfield's cash equity proceeds will be managed by Deutsche Bank. The transaction entails Brookfield selling 49% of its interest in the Boston office properties - 53 State Street and 75 State Street -- to a fund to be syndicated and As part of the alliance with Deutsche Bank Realty Advisors, Brookfield is selling an interest in its two

property assets may be entered into in 2000. penetration in key office markets across North America." Further joint venture transactions on other allows us to redeploy capital in order to be used to repurchase equity, repay debt or increase our strategic partnerships in quality office properties as we have with Deutsche Bank Realty Advisors Richard Clark, President and CEO of Brookfield Financial Properties commented that, "seeking

Toronto. Brookfield is inter-listed on the New York and Toronto Stock Exchanges under the symbol feet, including landmark properties such as the World Financial Center in New York and BCE Place in communities. The Brockfield portfolio includes 36 commercial properties totalling 33 million square North American properties, operates real estate service businesses and develops master planned million square feet of office space. Brookfield Properties Corporation owns and manages premier the heart of Boston's financial district. The properties encompass 2.1 million square feet including 1.9 The 53 and 75 State Street properties are located at the corners of State, Congress and Kilby streets in Wells, H. G.

A Modern Utopia;; London, etc., W. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 276p

In a preliminary note Wells states that this book is likely the last of his kind since he started with Anticipations.

A lifelong supporter of women's rights, Wells portrays his Utopia as accepting equality of the sexes and the establishment of a world state. His incidental comments about earlier Utopias are almost sufficient to make it unnecessary to read them.

I was distracted from his main arguments because of the many to me irrelevant extensions he probably intended as illustrative. I found Bellamy's Looking Backward much clearer and interesting.

On the whole I was disappointed. However the kind of socialism he favored might be considered more uptodate than Bellamy's.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 10, 2004





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BROOKFIELD PROPERTIES CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

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Contact:

Brookfield (Investor Relations) Katherine C. Vyse, 416/359-8600

Wells, H. G.

The Open Conspiracy: Blue Prints for a World Revolution Garden City, New Yorl, Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., (1928, Publishers)

The title explains the reason for this book which deplores nationalism and capitalism and favors a world state based on a revised socialism.

As in all such books, the wealthy are portrayed as maintaining power by oppressing the workers and the poor.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 12, 2004

MANITOBA

Wells, H. G.

Star-Begotten: A Biological Fantasia; New York, The Viking Press, 1937 (1937, Wells) 217p.

The early part of this book is devoted to a summary of the latest scientific discoveries of radiation, suggesting that cosmic rays might be causing mutations which might create supermen and geniuses.

A writer of popular histories marries a woman he cannot understand though he respects and loves her. His several friends who have talked with him about radiation have worried him into believing that his son to be born may be abnormal despite the gynocologist's assurances that both wife and son are fine.

Because of the gradual acceptance worldwide of the possibility that Martians are influencing our world, the writer believes that the number of superpeople is increasing. He destroys the manuscript of his latest book because it merely deals with our present world-view and he considers that his time should be devoted to the new world view. His wife confirms his decision and assures him that he himself is Star-Begotten.

I think that Wells wrote this book as self-promotion. This startles me because his autobiography portrayed him as possessing an ordinary mind. There is no plot or action in this alleged novel which is merely a scientific and philosophical discussion of the possibility of influence from aliens, Mars for example.

However, the book is easy reading; I finished it one evening.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 30, 2004

CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Wells, H. G.

Tono-Bungay; London, Macmillan and Co., Limited, 1909 no coyright information, but this copy may have been published in Toronto and the cover lacks the usual Macmillan at base of the spine 493p.

New York, Duffield and Company, 1927 (The Sandgate Edition with an introduction to this edition by Theodore Dreiser (1908) Publishers 460p.

London and Glasgow, Collins (This edition, leatherbound, 1953, latest reprint, 1966) frontispiece; Introduction by C. M. Joad: Bibliography 349p.

Library of Classics, Collins Leatherbound with slipcase, same introduction by Joad, no bibliography 354p.
(Note) There were probably other editions.

This is generally considered the most important novel by Wells. Told in the first person it portrays a young man under the influence of an ambitious uncle who invents a special drink and advertises it as a cureall, becoming wealthy from it and its offshoots until by overextending himself is ruined.

Wells intended this novel to illustrate the falsity of the modern capitalistic system and its destruction of morality and business ethics.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 12, 2004

TEM CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Wells, H. G.

The Wonderful Visit; New York, E. P. Dutton & Company; (1895, Macmillan Company) 245p.

A Vicar who was an ornithologist thought he saw a strange bird but soon realized that it was an angel. Giving the angel a suit of his own clothing, which was ill-fitting because of the angel's wings, he endeavored to convince people of the reality of the angel, but encountered difficulty.

Wells was apparently demonstrating in this story that the religious belief in angels did notresult in acceptance of the reality in real life. Although the story is a fantasy it is not often referred to in fandom and I do not consider it ranks with his science fiction novels in importance.

Chester D. Cuthbert November 10, 2004

Note: There is a reprint edition in the Wayfarers Library with an attractive colored frontispiece published by J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd.

MANITOBA



More Quotes and News: Brookfield Properties Corp (NYSE:BPO - news;

Toronto:BPO.TO - news)

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Questions or Comments?

Wendell, Barrett

Were the Salem Witches Guiltless?: A Paper read before the Essex Institute, February 29, 1892; Salem, Massachusetts, 1892 19p.

When I received this pamphlet from a dealer many years ago, I considered that I had been overcharged, perhaps because the pages were uncut. I was accumulating material on the Salem witchcraft trials, and set this aside to be studied when time allowed.

I regret that I did not read it long ago. The author, who apparently wrote a biography of Cotton Mather, disclaims any either the scientific or historical learning necessary to reach any final decision, felt that he must testify on the basis of his personal experiences that dabbling in occultism is dangerous and leads to demoralization and occult influences.

The experience which he found most convincing was the fear exhibited by a kindly woman medium emerging from a trance who asked his protection from an invisible entity. His own experience as a medium was limited to practising automatic writing, which he grew to fear and discontinued.

Despite many assurances in the literature that scientific investigation of psychic phenomena is no more dangerous than any other field of science, I am glad that I have always avoided any practical use of hypnotism or other psychic methods of investigating, like the so-called occult sciences. My interest is in the books as a fascinating branch of literature, stranger than fantasy and science fiction.

My principal mentor was Hereward Carrington, with whom I had a short correspondence during World War Two. He sometimes told of his personal experiences, but most of his books were devoted to popularizing what is now known as parapsychology. He was a competent investigator and an excellent expositor. But his personal experiences affected him, in my opinion, unfavorably.

This is not to say that he was like Elliot O'Donnell, who was called "the man whose soul was open on the hell side".

I have always respected Carrington.

This pamphlet of Wendell's hints that the accusers may have been subject to occult influences of evil intent. Whether they were conscious of this is still debatable.

Chester D. Cuthbert June 11, 1995 3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

First City Trust

Wertham, Frederic (spelled Fredrick on spine of book)

Dark Legend: A Study in Murder; New York, Book Find Club (Duell, Sloan and Pearce), (1941, Wertham) 257p.

This is the case history of a boy who killed his mother.

According to Wertham, no study of such cases existed at the time this murder took place. He did enough research to convince him that such cases followed a pattern, certified the boy to have been insane, and kept in touch with him until he became assured that the boy had recovered and was no more a menace to society, though the boy was still serving in his prison sentence.

P.55: In a larger sense, the perpetrator of a crime is a victim, too. (See Hugh Walpole: The Killer and the Glain CDC).

P.163-164: The inability to appreciate the fact that somebody is dead may persist even into adult life in neurotic individuals. Such emotional inability to realize the duration of "being away" and the permanence of death may be a factor in the belief in immortality and resurrection. (This is notable because I have often dreamed of persons who are dead, and in no case was I aware of them as having died.CDC).

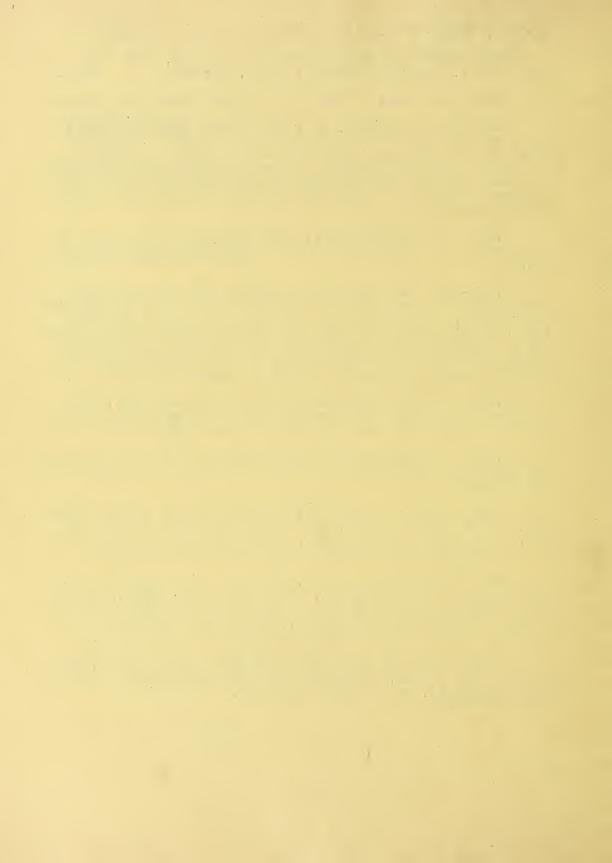
P.188: Mother fixation and the loss of her love, when combined with a general repression of sexual activity, caused in Gino destructive fantasies and impulses against her.

P.201: Literature is a link between science and society. Stories have a derived life, in the spectator, the reader, and the listener.

P.212: Gino: I knew she did what she did because Nature calls. The older you get, the more you realize. (Gino had not, at the time of the murder, known that the sex drive might be so strong as to overwhelm social and moral rectitude.)

This is an important book, and one which makes me respect Wertham as a sincere student, not only of psychiatry, but of human beings. His exposition of this case is a strong surport of the deterministic philosophy, showing the murderer to be a helpless victim of his social environment and upbringing.

I have filed the book under Wertham in non-fiction, but it is a dual volume, containing also William Maxwell's novel. The Folded Leaf, which I have not read.



Wertham, Fredric, M.D.

Seduction of the Innocent; Illustrated; New York/Toronto Rinehart & Company, Inc. (1953, 1954, Wertham) 400p.

This book is based on a seven years' study of the crime comics, and is probably the first adequate summary of their influence on the minds of children.

In 1954, probably 90,000,000 comics per month were rublished. Many children read up to 100 per week. In the crime comics, violence, torture, and sex were emphasised, and the children were fascinated by these abnormal factors, often imitating the events just as I remember my friends and I re-enacting movies we saw at Saturday morning theaters.

Wertham accuses the comics industry of having suborned psychitatrists into endorsing their products as enabling the children to release their normal aggressive tendencies, and also influencing legislators against passing laws to "clean up" the comics. He concludes that it is not the wishes of the children which are catered to, but the twisted views of the publishers of the comics, a small minority of greedy and unscrupulous enterpreneurs.

The effect of the crime comics is to corrupt the morals of children and to dull their comprehension of the differences between good and evil. The effect of the comics is to encourage violence, arouse enjoyment of sadism, teach criminal technology, offer through advertisements the weapons for vandalism and crime, and offer no inducements to encourage the finer values of living.

Near the end of the book, Wertham gives a preliminary study of the effects of television violence of children, saying that the influence of crime comis is already apparent through many of the crime and science fiction programs.

Wertham's conclusions almost suggest that the mafia is in control of the comics industry and encourages the acceptance of payola, "insurance" protective rackets, violence, kinky sex, and portrayal of the criminal life as glamorous, as normal; the "crime does not pay" is portrayed as just the opposite until in the concluding pages or pages the forces of law overwhelm the activities of the crooks, this being merely a sop to convention.

Being almost entirely ignorant of the contents of comics, this book is somewhat of a revelation to me, and I have to accept what Wertham says on trust. However, I think this is an important book, and that his viewpoint is valid.

The book is of more importance to a collector of comics than to a collector of fantasy, so I will offer it to Faul Deleske, Free Press photographer, who wants to own a copy.



West, D. J.

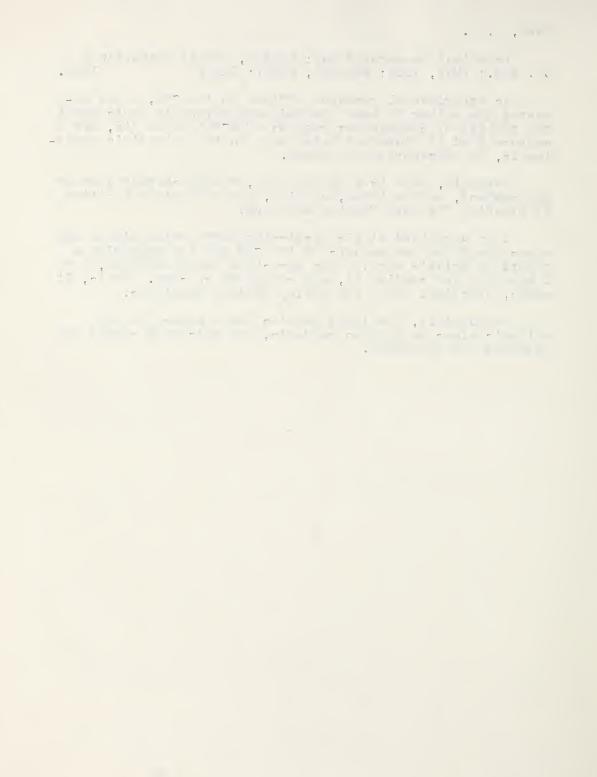
Psychical Research Today; London, Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd.; (May, 1954; January, 1956); Index 144p.

As experimental research officer to the SPR, I had expected the author to have covered more favorable facts about the reality of spontaneous reports of ESP than he did, but I suppose that his interest being more in the scientific experiments, he concentrated on those.

Actually, this is a fairly good, though sketchy view of the subject, well written, concide, and ultimately positive in pleading for more funding and work.

I am surprised at his dismissing Harry Price with a few words about the two members of the SPR who are preparing a report on Price's work. This has since been published, but I have not yet studied it, and should do so soon. He is, it seems, skeptical about the Borley Rectory hauntings.

Fortunately, the index permits ready access to the author's views on various subjects, and this book should be retained for reference.



West, Geoffrey

H. G. Wells, with a specially written introduction by H. G. Wells; Frontispiece; preface by West; Appendices;; Bibliography Index

Given free access to all information by Wells, this first of the detailed biographies is often credited by later writers. It provides a fairly complete description of Wells' early life and his standing as a novelist and prophet.

> Chester D. Cuthbert November 10, 2004

WANITOBA



master-planned community in the rapidly growing San Francisco Bay Area. Grading is expected to commence in mid-May 2000 on this 5,200 lot project in which Brookfield holds a one-third interest.

Service Businesses

Brookfield's facilities management business continued to expand its presence in the emerging private market for these services in Canada. This business unit was recently awarded a C\$2 billion, five-year contract to manage the Canadian real estate operations of Royal Bank Financial Group. The contract covers over 1,500 facilities totaling in excess of 15 million square feet of space across Canada and increases facilities under management in Canada to 55 million square feet.

In 1999, Brookfield established e-ffinity properties inc. to provide business to business services for tenants of office properties through a strategic network of leading North American suppliers. These services include telecommunications, application software services, technology management and other day to day procurement needs in a one stop shop for small and medium businesses. As the business to business market represents a major opportunity for companies with the vision to invest in the transformation of existing sales and service processes to a technology-driven platform, Brookfield continues to take advantage of these opportunities.

During the first quarter of 2000, e-ffinity properties:

- Expanded its relationship with Cypress Communications by launching Cypress Communications
 Canada. The first property to be re-wired is BCE Place in Toronto which will commence
 offering services to its first customers by May 1, 2000. This venture builds on Brookfield's
 earlier investment in Cypress Communications Inc., which went public on Masdaq in February
 2000. Cypress Communications is providing Brookfield's tenants building-centric
 telecommunications services including high speed voice, data and internet access, business
 telecommunication services including high speed voice, data and internet access, business
 telecvision and other enhanced communication services.
- Entered into a master access agreement and revenue sharing arrangement with Morigen
 Communications, a Canadian broadband provider of high quality telecommunication services.
 As well, e-finity properties participated in a syndicate led by Chase Capital Partners which raised C\$122.5 million of equity for Morigen Communications.
 Launched Officetempo, in partnership with Gen 3 Partners of Boston Massachusetts.
- Officetempo is an internet-enabled business to business product provider for office tenants.

 These services will be launched to tenants in July of 2000.

 Invested in Realpulse, a software provider to the commercial real estate industry. This software
- Invested in Realpulse, a software provider to the commercial real estate industry. This software is in the process of being internet-enabled and will be available to real estate companies as application software in the future.

Share Repurchases

The shares of Brookfield, and its publicly traded affiliates continue to trade below underlying net asset values. As a result, Brookfield has invested over US\$125 million in capital to repurchase shares over the past nine months. This includes the purchase of over 1 million shares of Gentra through auction average price of US\$11.00, the re-purchase of 10.2 million shares of Gentra through auction processes and the re-purchase of 1.5 million shares of Carma through issues and purchaser bids. "Should this dichotomy between asset values and stock market prices remain, Brookfield will continue to dedicate capital to these repurchase programs", commented Bruce Flatt.

Goodness Had Nothing to do with It: The Autobiography of Mae West; New York, Belvedere Publishins (1981), (1959, author); Illustrated 271p.

Although not very well but clearly written, this book leaves me with the impression that Mae West was an honest woman who had made up her mind as a child to be a star and used every ability she had to succeed. The wrote books, revised scripts, wrote stage plays and screen scripts, and was the highest paid female star of her day in silent films.

Married before she was twenty years old, the marriage lasted a very short time, and was denied by her until her husband brought suit against her 25 years later for 100,000 dollars maintenance; a suit she won, since it will little more than blackmail. After this early mistake she refused to consider marriage, but was sexually active throughout her life with a multitude of men, including her longtime agent, although this liason turned into guardianship on his part, and friendship on Mae's.

Her final chapter contains a copy of the letter she wrote to Kinsey on sex, and a regimen she recommended for women to help them stay healthy and young-looking. The admits her liking for men and sex, derides the "morality" which prevents sexual freedom and encourages perversions, and demonstrates by her success that her daring and ironical treatment of sex in her plays and films appealed to the general public as a relief from oppressive sex laws. Her book is written in good taste. The was a hard worker, did not smoke or drink, was fastidious about her person and her appearance, and although my impression is that she was a domineering and self-centered woman, she had a high standard of personal conduct, and knew what she was doing.

I was favorably impressed.

On pages 133-136, and 210 she writes of occultism and her belief in a life peyond this world. The mass cured of a 2-year illness by a swami, and other incidents led her to a consideration of the world beyond.

"Mga kapatid kong babae at lalaki, ang mga nabanggit ng ating bisita ay karapatdapat na pag-ukulan natin ng pag-iisip." Matapos ito ay yumuko sa makislap na isda at nangusap sa kaniya: "Subalit makislap na kaibigan, dapat din tanggapin natin na iyong mga ngiming isda na matahimik na nabubuhay dito sa sapa ay nagsaad din ng mga pahayag na karapatdapat pag-isipan. "Kahit ano pa man ang mangyari, magpakatino tayo at ipagpatuloy ang mga awiting natutunan noong mga nakalipas na panahon,at nakapagbigay sa atin ng kaginhawahan." Tumingin siya sa kaniyang binabasa at muling ngumiti sa kanila. "Magagawan natin ito ng paraan. Bakit hindi tayo bumuo ng isang grupong tatalakay sa bagay na ito. Maari tayong magkita tuwing Martes ng gabi sa ganap na 7:30. Alam kong ang ilan sa mga isda dito sa sapa ay matutuwa pang magdala ng kape at tinapay."

Naging malungkot ang mata ng makislap na isda. "Hindi ito ang katugunan. Oo, mahalaga ang pag-uusap, subalit sa bandang huli, simple lamang. Tumalon ka mula sa sapa at magtiwala na ang ilog na siyang pangunahing agos at daluyan ng buhay ang magdadala sa iyo sa lawa. Matapos ito, ang iba pang mga kapatid na lalaki at babaeng isda ay magkakalakas ng loob na sumunod sa iyo, at isang araw, makakarating ka sa lawa--ang dakong pinaglalaanan talaga sa inyo."

Sa itaas ng malabong sapa, may isang ibon na nagsimulang humuni. Muling kuminang ang kislap sa mga mata ng isda at may pagmamadaling sinabi: "Ngayon na ang panahon upang simulan ang inyong pagtalon. Sumunod kayo sa akin at gagawin ko kayong mga mangingisda ng isda!"

Sa simula ay walang nais kumilos. Matapos ang kaunting sandali, ang ilan ay naglapitan sa kaniya ang mga isda at sama-sama silang tumalon sa ilog at tinangay sila ng agos ng ilog.

Ang mga natirang isda ay naging tahimik, at muling lumangoy na paikot at nagsimulang maghanap ng kutong-tubig at nagsimula na namang magsipag-away.

Sinasabi sa atin ng Diyos ngayon, katulad ng pagsasalita niya noon kay Hosea: "Nais ko ang matibay na pag-ibig at hindi pagtitiis, ang kaalaman sa Diyos sa halip na sinunog na alay." (Hosea 6:6)

Ang matibay na pag-ibig na mayroon tayo para sa Diyos ang siyang makapag-bibigay kahulugan sa araw ng ating mga linggo at makapagpapakilos sa ating buhay iglesia. Tayo nang tumalon paalis sa sapa ng Home Street at angkinin ang pangunahin daluyan ng ating buong buhay para sa Diyos habang hinahanap natin ang malawak na lawa na ipinangako sa atin ng Diyos!

AMEN.

REB. DR. RAYMOND A. CUTHBERT HOME STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH West, Nathanael

A Cool Million & The Dream Life of Balso 3nell; New York, Avon Books (#NS39); (2nd ptg., March, 1969) 158p.

Contenta

1. A Cool Million
2. The Dream Life of Balso Snell

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The first of these short novels is a parody of an Algerstory, showing how disaster strikes a young man every time he makes an effort to do good. His girl friend is likewise victimized and ultimately becomes a whore. Evil and deceit win every contest because society's goals are not altruistic and these goals must be achieved at the cost of moral defeat.

The second is a mishmash of attempted satire; the hero enters the trojan horse through its anus and scatalogical and sexual innuendo are expected to carry the narrative to a conclusion. A woman writer tells the sad story of a girl whose lover abandons her to suicide when she becomes pregnant, then shirks responsibility for her death. The first edition of this book sold only a few copies, deservedly.

I cannot acknowledge the genius claimed for West.

3246 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0Y9 (204) 831-7777 THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY

1962-1987

LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

CASEFÈTE

First City Trust

The Day of the Locust; New York, Bantam Books, (February, 1953), (#1093), (1939, Estate of author) 142p.

The introduction by Richard B. Gehman was copyrighted by him in 1950.

Although this book is probably one of the early exposing novels of the underside of Hollywood, I think that it has been superseded by Queer People whose author I cannot remember at the moment.

Incidents and characters seemed familiar to me as I read through this book, but it was not until the closing scenes that I recalled "Homer" having been played in the movie by Donald Sutherland.

Basically, this tells the story of a shy, incompetent man who becomes hopelessly enamored of a call girl who uses him and his money to support her while she tries in vain to become a movie star, obtaining only extra jobs and doing most of her acting, as her clown father had, for her friends and to attract attention. The girl entered call girl activity to obtain enough money to pay for the funeral of her father, but although later promiscuous, refused the advances of a secondary character also enamored.

The final scenes of a mob incited by the killing of a boy by "Homer" who had teased him with a wallet attached to a string brought the movie back to my memory.

A cockright I think was also featured in the movie; it was a cruel affair, as distasteful in the book as in the picture.

A seamy story, ending in the hopelessness of disillusionment of everyone.

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First City Trust

West, Nathanael

Miss Lonelyhearts; with an introduction by Stanley Edgar Hyman; New York, Avon Books (#GSI), (1935, West), (Intro, 1962, 1964, University of Minnesota Press), (Fifth Ptg. February, 1964), (1st, March, 1955)

This is really a novelette. The introduction comprises the first 28 pages of this paperback.

Overwhelmed by the distress of correspondents, the male columnist of advice to the lovelorn seeks relief in alcohol, barroom companionship, and sex, but is confused about his own sexuality and shuns the love of a devoted fiances, though he has relations with her. His superior at the paper is a cynical and domineering person who suggests that Miss become involved with his correspondents, and who uses friends and acquaintances to flirt with his wife to arouse her to his tasts.

Miss becomes suicidal, and only his fiancee attempts to help him. A cripple whose unsatisfied wife seeks sexual satisfaction from Miss accidentally kills Miss, though he and Miss have homosexual affection for each other in their misery.

The theme of this story seems to be frustration natural to the human condition in our artificial civilization. It is not a pleasant picture.

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LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

CASEFÉTE

First City Trust

West, Nathanael

Miss Lonelyhearts and The Day of the Locust; New York, New Directions Publishing Corporation (#NDP125), (1962, 1969 12th ptg)

Contents

1. Miss Lonelyhearts
2. The Day of the Locust

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This edition does not have the introductions of the paperback editions by Avon and Bantam, respectively, which are interesting, though Hyman's reveals too much of the plot and incidents of the story.

Refer to my notes under the individual titles.

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LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE

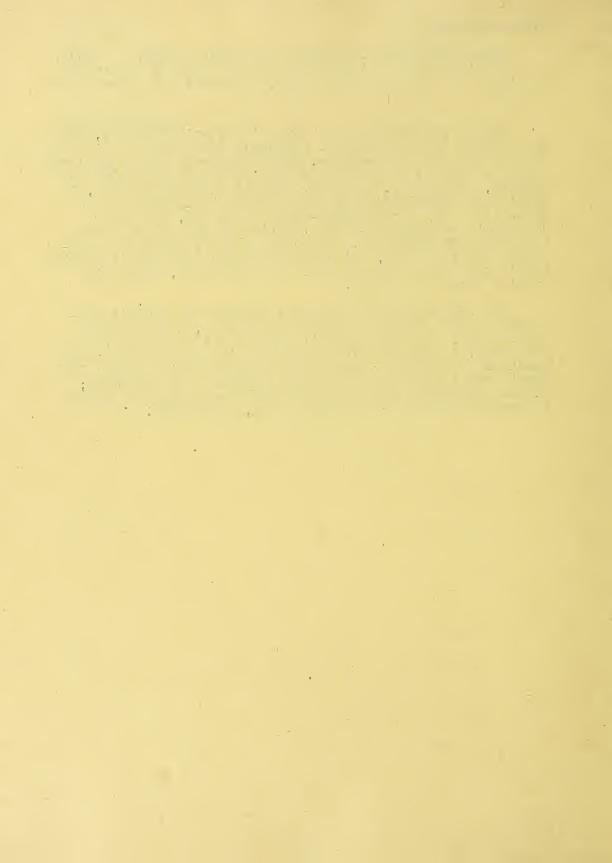
FirstCity Trust

Weston, George

Comet 'Z'; London, Methuen & Co. Ltd., (1934) 280p.
American Title: "His First Million Momen", apparently
published by Rinehart Books, Inc., and reprinted in paperback
by Avon.

David Glendenning is in love with Stacia Matthews, but she marries Stefan Gluckman. Gluckman keeps David in ignorance of Stacia's whereabouts, until laws made after the comet has made all but him infertile require him to marry Evelyn Delhoff, by whom he has a son. To get away from Evelyn, he visits his grandfather and in isolation is unaware of his paternity. His newspaperman-uncle finds him, and under Gluckman's management David transmits to 100 men each day his fertility potential. The comet has disturbed the electrical basis of life, but physical contact with David enables him to pass on to other men his own potential, though in varying degrees of power.

How the nations of the world compete for David's services in their efforts to avoid extinction, how the women vie for him, since the comet's effects will last for 90 or 100 years, is told effectively with quiet humor and without bawdiness. This is an excellent science fiction novel; its idea's implications are carefully explored and portrayed; and the practical effect of the situation on current morals is realistically but in subdued tone, considered.



Weston, Garnett

The Hidden Portal; Published for The Crime Club by Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, N. Y., 1946 284p. Toronto, Harlequin Books #125, August, 1951 160p.

As indicated above, the paperback reprint has been abridged. I did not read it to check whether the story has been altered, but believe excess verbiage has been removed.

In Spanish Morocco an American and an English flier become involved in a plot by the Spanish Governor to invade Gibraltar through underground passageways between northern Africa and the Rock which had apparently been discovered by the Carthaginians.

A leather-bound diary written sometime earlier by Acris describing his researches into the passageways and the discovery of a fabulous treasure in gold and jewels transported there by the Carthaginians, is passed on to his former colleague Captain Purkeypile by Acris on his deathbed; the Captain was a former lover of Acris' wife, a beautiful courtesan, and although he is now 85 years old, she still attracts him, as does her daughter Lola. The former Kitty has plotted with the Spanish Governor to reveal the passageways and the treasure in return for his promise to marry her when her husband dies. There is a romantic triangle between the two fliers and Joan Formby, beautiful blonde who assists them to escape the soldiers of the Governor.

Purkeypile sets the Spaniards and Germans against each other, and sets out to get the treasure, but a bomber from the Rock floods the passageway, burying the treasure. Kitty tries to entrap Purkeypile, but he escapes with his ship, preferring freedom to romance.

This is about an average novel of adventure and intridue, based on a legend concerning the passageway which might make it borderline fantasy, especially since footrrints in the rassage of a gigantic beast are found. Apes have been preserved on the Rock, and are believed to have got there through the passageway. I do not consider that this novel qualifies as fantasy.



Weston, George

His First Million Women; New York, Avon Publishing XXXX pxxxtixx Co., Inc. (#396); (1934, Teston); (1952, Avon) 220p. Canadian edition is unnumbered.

British Title: "Come t 'Z'"

David Glendenning is in love with Stacia Matthews, but she marries Stefan Gluckman. Gluckman keeps David in ignorance of Stacia's whereabouts, until laws made after the comet has made all but him infertile require him to marry Evelyn Delhoff, by whom he has a son. To get away from Evelyn, he visits his grandfather and in isolation is unaware of his paternity. His newspaperman-uncle finds him, and under Gluckman's management David transmits to 100 men each day his fertility potential. The comet has disturbed the electrical basis of life, but physical contact with David enables him to pass on to other men his own potential, though in varying degrees of power.

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A Little Wizard; New York, R. F. Fenno & Company, Illustrated, (1895)

This is a short historical novel, in which Cronwell ends the accusation of witchcraft made against a 12-year-old boy by showing the real purpose of his actions: to take a tally of Cromwell's forces on behalf of his fugitive brother.

Although this is not a fantasy, it is a good portrayal of how the superstitions of the time could make people believe inexplicable happenings to be due to a compact with the devil, and thus accuse an innocent child.

This book is in the same category as Wright's The Witch-finder. Although not fantasy, it is associational.



The Long Night

Toronto, The Copp Clark Company, Limited; London and Bombay, Longmans, Green, and Co., 1903 379p.

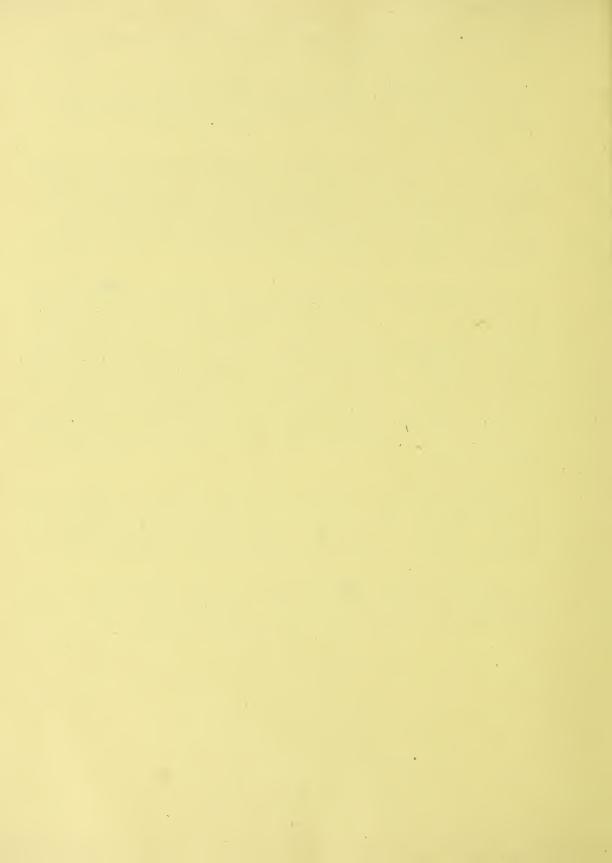
This third novel listed by Bleiler is also historical rather than fantasy, but associational inasmuch as it gives a good portrayal of the background public misunderstanding of the phenomena of witchcraft and the persecution to which this gave rise.

Claude Mercier, a student of theology, arrives in Geneva to study and wishes to board with Madame Royaume which whom his father had stayed some years earlier. Her daughter Anne discourages him, but he sees that she is being persecuted by a giant scholar and a drunken war veteran who board there, and despite the warning given him by the fact that a young man is vacating the premises as he arrives, he obtains Madame Royaume's consent to his staying.

He conflicts with her persecutors and is not welcomed by the 4th Syndic Philibert Blondel, who believes himself doomed to death from the "scholar's disease" and is ready to betray his city in return for an elixir promised by the scholar, an Italian savant named Basterga. Blondel, in his efforts to obtain the Remedium, tries to enlist the aid of a third, cowardly, boarder, Claude, and finally Anne; but Anne, learning that the elixir is supposed to cure body and mind, and fearing that she and her mother will be charged with witchcraft because her mother is mentally ill, steals the elixir and gives it to her mother. Basterga, when Blondel shows his despair at this turn of events, denies that the medicine is the elixir, which he claims is in charge of the Grand Duke of Gavoy; and Blondel betrays Geneva.

By fighting until he can drop the portcullis, Claude saves the city, and Madame Royaume drops an iron kettle onto the head of Basterga, killing him just as he appeared to be winning the battle. Claude marries Anne, and her mother survives the fight by four years in good mental health because the shock has overcome the previous shock which sent her into madness.

Although rather drawn-out by plot and counterplot over the intrigue for the city and for the elixir, this is a good novel, and worth the extra length given it by the author over the wordage he devoted to the other two so-called fantasies.



Weyman, Stanley J.

The Man in Black; Illustrated by Wal Paget and H. M. Paget; New York, The Cassell Publishing Co., 1894 212p.

Like A Little Wizard, this short novel is historical, not fantasy. It is associational, because the title character is an astrologer and poisoner, who schemes to hoodwink the people with whom he makes contact.

The lead character, again, is a 12-year-old boy. As the story opens, he accompanies a showman and a monkey; and repeats a short summary of his vague origins for money from sympathetic women. He runs away with The Man in Black, who is a grandson of Nostradamus, a cruel, supercilious charlatan, who suspects the boy is an heir stolen eight years before by gypsies. They meet a noble and his subservient and timid, but pretty, wife, whom he has married for her money.

The noble falls in love with a high-born lady, and she gets pregnant by him. To save her honor, he must marry her, and goes to The Man in Black for a poison to kill his wife so that he may do so. At the same time, his wife goes to the Man in Black for a love potion which will influence her husband to love her more. The men scheme to kill her by telling her to take the poison herself in the belief that it is a love potion. The boy, fearful as he is of The Man in Black, follows the wife and tells her the magician has made a mistake, and that the potion is to be given to the husband. Innocently, the wife places the potion into her husband's nightcap drink, and he dies.

There being many instances of wives poisoning their husbands, this wife is brought to trial, and is saved only when the boy comes forward and tells the story. The King of France and Cardinal Richelieu attend, and the Cardinal rets at the fact in such a way that the boy is recognized as the rightful heir, and sister of the wife. The showman who has treated the boy cruelly, finally shows up at the estate, and is beaten away, leaving his monkey behind for the boy.

These two novels comprise a rood example of items in the Bleiler Checklist, which are associational, but not fantasy.

